TUESDAY 1 JULY 1997



attention as they cross the border into Hong Kong last night. Meanwhile (below) (Goodbye Hong Kong)



Steve Crawshaw Hong Kong

Never has there been such an extraordinary end to British rule, full of so many mixed emotions. As the first deafening fireworks exploded over Victoria Harbour yesterday evening to celebrate the hand-over of Hong Kong, the first pro-democracy banners were already being unfurled.

At the midnight ceremony adependence for the former colony was smultaneously granted and removed, tered photogenically in a tificial indoor breeze. The Prince of Wales told the assembled VIPs in Hong Kong's convention ceotre: "We shall not forget you, as you embark on this new era of your re-markable history." But Hong Kong knew that its battles would be its own.

Minutes after its return to China was complete, the leader of Hong Kong's most popular party spoke from the balcony of the legislative council building - a council from which the democrats have been excluded in the new Hong Kong. Martin Lee, leader of the Democratic Party, described this as "a very happy day". But be told the ering crowds: "Hong Kong ruling Hong Kong does not just depend on whether China gives that to us. We must all struggle together."

At the stroke of midnight, a British o and of honour hand-ed over the Prince of Wales has racks, Britain's former military headquarters, to a small group of officers of the People's Liberation Army. Then, at dawn this morning, thousands of Chinese troops were due to pour into the territory, by ship, helicopter and armoured car. Some Hong Kongers, especially in the villages of the New Territories, were waiting to greet the arriving soldiers as conquering heroes, with flowers, flags and speeches. But others were less enthusiastic. Mr Lee pointed out: Now we're part of China, so we don't need troops to protect us from China. Is it the intention to intimidate Hong

In Peking, thousands of po-lice cleared Tiananmeo Square to allow the official celebrations to take place. The authorities, apparently worried that people might start chanting slogans about democracy instead of slogans of joy about Hong Kong banned spontaneous demonstrations of any kind.

At Britain's early-evening

farewell ceremony, accompa-nied by a Hong Kong downpour (traditionally supposed to bring good luck), Mr Patten declared: Today is a cause for celebration, not for sadness." Hong Kong had originally become British in circumstances that

Inside

Patten's farewell; Cheers in Gerard Street page 15 The 'emperors' sweep in page 16 Camival comes to Peking's streets page 17 Partying the colony away; Sun sets on Lily Wong page 18 Andrew Marr page 21

"none of us here would seek to condone". But Mr Patten, praising Hong Kong's vibrancy, spoke of his confidence in its promise and unshakeable destiny". There was prolonged cheering and applause for Mr Patten as he sat down, leaving him apparently close to tears.

The Chinese President, Jiang

Zemin, and the Prime Minister. Tony Blair, met for talks which Mr Blair described as opening "a new chapter" in relations between the two countries.

At 1.30am local time, Time Chee-hwa and then the rest of cially sworn in, at a ceremony need to "gradually develop a dehis new government was offi-

attended by President Jiang Zemin. Each of them spoke their non-native Mandarin Chinese, as spoken in Peking. Anson Chan, the respected chief secretary who has retained her post as number two in Hong Kong, was among those who may have felt a twinge of queasiness at the oddness of her situation - being sworn in, with the blessing of Communist leaders whose commitment to

democracy and human rights has been proved to be slight. The bewigged judges were sworn in, in the presence of the Communist leaders. Even more tending the official ceremonies bizarrely, while the Hong Kong Chinese judges had to speak Mandarin at the ceremony, the territory's English-speaking judges had a separate swearing-

in, in English. A little after that came the swearing-in of the new legislature - until now, known as the provisional legislature. Their speedy promotion ended a legal vacuum, and allowed the new legislative council, consisting of appointers acceptable to Peking, to overturn laws which had been passed by the outgoing elected assembly. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary and Madeleine Albright. the US Secretary of State, both boycotted the swearing-in of the oew legislature - but later decided to send diplomatic rep-resentatives, to the anger of the

democrats. Yesterday's eveots marked a giant leap into the unknown. It is possible to analyse, to guess, to argue. But the reality is that the hand or Hong Kong, nor China - knows what will happen next.

Already, there have been many signs that Peking wants to erode freedoms which it regards at best as irrelevant, at worst as dangerous. In the words of the elected but unseated democrat, Christine Loh: "It's like a headache. Not a migraine that flattens you, but a dull, thudding headache that bothers you all the time." The new chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, has promised elections for next May. But the terms of the elections are still unclear. President Jiang spoke enigmatically of the

mocratic system that suits Hong Kong's reality". One interpre-tation was that the system which had allowed democrats to be

elected did not suit Hong

Kong's reality. Yesterday, it seemed clear

where power lay.

Mr Blair and Mr Jiang met in the hotel where the Chinese

president was staying, even

while the territory remained

was a reminder that the Chinese

exposing themselves to the

Kong people.

anger or scorn of the Hong

mselves are worried about

Mr Blair, Prime Minister of

popular shopping mall in the

centre of Hong Kong yesterday. But the Chinese leaders were

Peking.
They are mortally afraid of the knock-on effect of incorporating feisty and irreverent Hong Kongers into the People's Republic of China, where respect for the regime is compulsory. Only in the years to come will anybody know how Hong Kong will be changed by China, or if Communist China. theoretically British. It seemed to be a case of the weaker power paying homage to the pow-erful. More importantly, has more to fear from Hong Kong's own home-grown however, the fact that Mr Jiang stayed in his hotel except for at-

democracy.

Ms Lob, leader of the Citizens Party, was hopeful. "My greatest fear is that we go back o the colonial mode of just being bystanders. But there's a core of Hong Kong spirit. I know what it is, because I'm living it. Those freedoms are tastthe outgoing colonial power, could safely allow himself to be ed at the edges. And people here are getting more and more mobbed by enthusiastic crowds when he went walkabout in a vociferous."

It is not the kind of remark that the new sovereign power wants to hear.

ALL BLECTRONIC ARTS

Kong citizens into silence?" Soaking June set to drench all records

Alexandra Williams Drought warnings were issued last night even though this month will probably enter the record books as the wettest

June this century. The Environment Agency was quick to highlight the counin's water shortage after another miserable day in many parts of the country, while weather officials could not rule out the possibility that it will be the wedest June for 118 years.

In June 1879, there was 137mm of rain and 129mm in 1982. By 10am yesterday only 2.6 mm more rain was needed for June 1997 to slot into the record books as the wettest this century.

Andy Yeatman, spokesman for The Meteorological Office in London, said: "My suspicion is that June will break the 1982 record. The figures date back to 1727 and are derived by meaning the rainfall recorded at a number of sites across England

the 24 hours ending at 10am on Tuesday will be included in the June rainfall total. That's when we'll know the grand total.

"Eastern England has experienced some rain today. There's been little elsewhere but I wouldn't rule out June breaking the 1879 record as well." The Environment Agency's

Director of Water Manage-ment, Dr Geoff Mance, said: "We are still effectively missing six months of winter rainfall

eas that rely on groundwater are still suffering from drought.

The rainfall has been wel-

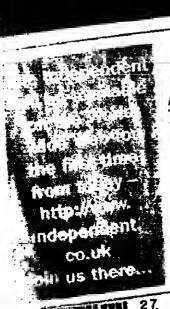
come and played an important role in reducing customer demand. People haven't had to water their gardens and in fact demand has reduced so much over the last month that it is now at the same level that it was 20 years ago."

Although June was the wettest month since January

1995, the period between April 1995, the period between spiral

conserve their water. Last night the company said that there were no plans to lift hose and sprinkler bans enforced on 12 inne.

Southern Water kept its sprinkler ban despite 99-yearold rainfall records being broken in Hove, Sussex. Listings12,13 Racio & TV 15,16 Visual arts4,5



X-rated Internet

British experts will next week propose cinema-style ratings for Internets to a meeting of European ministers, with the backing of the US and Ametralia. X-rated Internet pose cinema-style ratings for inter-net sites to a meeting of European and Australia.

THE BROADSHEET Business & City 23-27 Comment19-21 Foreign News . .12-18 Gazette22 Home News 2-11

THE TABLOO Law Report22 Leading articles . . . 19 Arts reviews 11 Letters19 Crossword14 Obituaries22 Dr Phil Hammond . .3 Shares25 Sport28-32 Feature10 The Handover is complete Stop the War Before it Begins.

significant shorts

Judges overturn order banning parole review

A girl sentenced to life for axing ber great aunt in death has won the right in be considered for parole after six years in detention.

Donna Furber was 16 when she killed Edith Dent, apparently

believing that removing the old woman from the family scene would enable her to achieve her life's ambitinn of becoming a model. She pleaded guilty at Manchester Crown Court in June 1991 to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. The then Home Secretary Michael Howard ordered her to serve a minimum of seven years for "retribution and deterrence" before even being considered for parole, but yesterday two High Court judges held that this could not stand in the light of the recent judges held that this could not stand in the light of the recent Hnuse of Lords decision in favour of the juvenile killers of James Bulger. The Law Lords had ruled that the "minimum tariff" set by Mr Howard in the Bulger case was unlawful because it failed to take account of their youth and the legal requirement to consider the on-going welfare of juvenile offenders.

MoD to sue over jet crash

The Ministry of Defence is to sue an aerial photography company involved in a collision with an RAF Jaguar jet six years ago. The MoD is seeking more than £7m compensation from the Leeds-based firm Skyviews & General as a result of a mid-air collision between the Jaguar and a Cessna light aircraft over Wales in 1991. The Jaguar pilot, W/Cdr John Mardon, 40, whn was based at RAF Cultishall. Norfnik, died in the accident which happened while he was involved in a low-level training exercise. An official institute found that the comb was according to the fine of Cessna. inquiry found that the crash was caused by the lnw-flying of Cessna pilnt Robert Cooper, whn was no an aerial photography mission. He was also killed in the crash.

Bridgewater man fined for theft



Michael Hickey, nne of the recently released Bridgewater Four, was yesterday fined £200 and ordered to pay costs of £55 for stealing a diamond ring from a jeweller's shop in Birmingham. Hickey, 35, (left) of Kidderminster, admitted the charge at Birmingham Magistrates Court but denied a further offence of possessing an nffensive weapon. The prosecutioo offered no evidence on that matter and the charge was dismissed. After

the hearing, Hickey's mother, Ann Whelan, said: "I suppose they've taken Michael's quite abvious circumstances into account, and I think they felt that's all they could do." Asked if she thought her son would oow seek help, she said: "There will be a day in the future when he will say, 'I need help' - he cries every solitary day ... He's just very sad at the moment."

Hague sets wedding date

Tory party leader William Hague is tn marry his fiancée in a ceremony at the House of Commons, it was revealed yesterday. Mr Hague will wed Fiioo Jenkins on 19 December in the chapel at the House of Commons crypt. The marriage vows will be read in both English and Welsh - Miss Jenkins' first language.

Train drivers reject peace move

Industrial action by train drivers on a key part of the Londoo commuter oetwork will be reimposed from 8 July after proposals by the company were rejected yesterday by the drivers' uninn. Aslef said revised proposals from Connex South Central, which runs trains into London from Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex, were "not acceptable and do not meet the aspirations of our

membership".

The last bout of actioo caused more than 300 trains to be cancelled from the summer train timetable. This cost the rail firm tens of thousands of pounds in fines from the regulator who penalised Connex for every train it did oot run. Randeep Ramesh

'Round Britain Quiz' set to return

World At One presenter Nick Clarke is to host one of radio's most challenging programmes - the Round Britain Quiz - when it returns to Radio 4 oext month. The programme, which began in 1947, came off air last year after its co-chairman Gordon Clough died.

Boy, 7, savaged by dog

A seven-year-old boy oeeded 250 stitches to his head after being mauled by a dng in a neighbour's garden. Gary Brown, of Antrim. suffered a severed artery in his neck and numerous puncture wounds to his head. He was said last night said to be in a stable condition in hospital. The dog, a rare Japanese breed "larger than a rottweiler", was destroyed.

Correction

Contrary to the caption which appeared in early editions of *The Independent* nn 26 June. Securicor still holds its contract with the Hame Office to escort prisoners in the Metropolitan Police area.

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BACK ESSUES

apers, telephone 01988 840370.

people



NO SOFT SOAP: Former EastEnder Anita Dobson (second from left) with past and present cast members of the BBC soap opera, at the funeral yesterday of the show's creator, Julia Smith. The service, at Mortlake Crematorium, London, was also attended by the BBC1 controller, Alan Yentob, who said: "She had a real belief in the contemporary world, she wanted to tell stories of her time."

Brendan Foster takes gold in a very different arena

Ormer Olympic athlete and television commentator Brendan Foster will triumphantly join the multi-millionaire race this month. The long-distance runner is floating his sportswear, sponsorship and event marketing company on the stock market in three

Nova International - to be renamed View From International, on flotation - is likely to be valued at between £10m and £12m. After flotation, Mr Foster estimates he will have a 40 per cent stake, worth about £4.5m.

Foster set up Nova International with three friends, nine years ago. They had been working at Nike (UK) and were involved in building up the US sportswear giant's UK business between 1981 and 1987. Speaking yesterday from Nova International's New-

castle offices, Mr Foster said: "We decided to have a go ourselves and it just took off. "We planned to enter the national arena and gradually expand Internationally." Realising that expansion required an Injection of finance from the City, the directors took advice on floating the company four months ago.

There are already Nova International distributors in the Republic of Ireland, Holland, Germany and Belgium. Mr Foster hopes to continue the expansion across Europe, and ultimately expand Into North America. He said: "We are expanding step by step and taking

one thing at a time. Thanks to our successful event marketing and athletics sponsorship contracts, View From is already a brand with credibility and a solid reputation.

"A stock market listing gives us the scope to grow the business and gives the View From name an increased profile in the active sportswear market."

Foster's business has supplied shoes and clothing for LWT's massively successful Gladiators series; and five years agn it won the contract to supply View From kit to the British athletics team.

Linford Christie, Sally Gunnell, Colin Jackson and Jonathan Edwards have all worn the sportswear. And Mr Foster is proud of the fact that the sportswear. Mr Foster is proud of the fact that these athletes have won gold medals in competion while wearing his firm's Alexandra Williams

co-existence".

competitions.

pete freely.

Darts players settle feud

world's top darts players was set-

when opposing sports bodies

egreed to a charter of "peaceful

Eric Bristow, John Lowe, "Jocky"

Wilson, Cliff Lazarenko and Phil

Taylor, began a court action last

nopoly on running events and

In the deal announced vesterday, the players, banned by the

BDO when they broke away to form the World Darts Council in

1993, regained the right to com-

Under the terms of the agree-

the Professional Darts Council.

recognise the darts tournaments

are not the exclusive preserve of

any one organisation. They both

accepted the need to promote the

freedom of individual darts players

to play in apen competition and to

recognise each other's existence.

In return, the players dropped

their claim for damages through

being barred by the BDO.

ment, the BDO and WDC, renamed

week against the British Darts Organisation, claiming it had e mo-

Fourteen top players, including



Hague to marry in Commons

The Tory party leader, William Hague, is to marry his fiancée in e ceremony at the House of Commons, it was annunced yesterday.

Mr Hague will marry Ffion Jenkins on 19 December in the chapel at the House of Commons crypt. The marriage vows will be read In both English and Welsh - Miss

Jenkins' first language. Mr Hague, 36, and Miss Jenkins, 29, have chosen a traditional wedding service which will he conducted jointly by the Speaker's chaplain and a Welsh Methodist

The couple do not want their

wedding to be a political event, and around 140 family and friends are expected to attend.

A reception will be held in the State Rooms of the Speaker's House, followed by a wedding breakfast in the Members' dining room. The day after the wedding, a family party will be held in Wales to reflect the balance between the couple's backgrounds.

Miss Jenkins, who was engaged in Mr Hague In March, is the daughter of Emyr Jenkins, e former director of the Eisteddfod who is now chief executive of the

Lack of basic skills can mean a miserable life

Those who leave school without basic skills are heading for ? unemployment, loneliness and illness, according to a survey published yesterday.

briefing

A sindy for the Basic Skills Agency, carried out by London's City University, found that one in five of 1,700 adults questioned had very low literacy or very low numeracy. Some could not every read aloud from a children's book.

Researchers who tracked the adults from birth to the age of 37 found that it was very difficult for people to make up for a plor start later in life: as many people reported problems at 21 as fild so

Those who had most difficulty with reading and maths were likely to have spent at least three more years not of work, were more than four times as likely to live in a household where neither partner was working and were much less likely to have voted in a general election.

Women with poor skills were five times as likely to be classifed as depressed.

CHURCH

Slimmed-down Synod on the cards

Proposals to cut the size of the General Synod of the Church of England by a third, and to radically overhand the way in which the church's partiament works, were published yesterday. A report, Synodical Government in the Church of England: A Review, published by Church House, is the culmination of a four-year review chaired by Church Spides of House, is the culmination of a four-year review chaired by Lord Bridge of Harwich. It recommends that the number of suffragan bishops elected to the House of Bishops should be reduced from nine to six and that the maximum size of the General Synod be reduced from 575 to 390.

The report's suggestions for the style and procedure of the General Synod, which have existed in their present form since 1970, include more imaginative use of prayer and quiet reflection and allowing the Synod to determine the frequency of its own meetings. Synodical Government in the

Church of England: A Review, £5.95 from Church House Bookshop, 31 Great Smith Street, London SWIP 3BN. Tel: 0171 340 0276. Clare Gamer



WOMEN

Less depression after menopause

Depression decreases in women after the menopause, according to a new report, to be presented at the Royal College of Psychiatrists conference which begins today.

It is a well-documented fact that women are more prone to depressive disorders than men, but this latest study shows that; as a group, a large random sample of women over the age of 55 actually displayed lower levels of depression than men. The change in the ratio between the sexes is said to have been seen because of a reduction in the female prevalence of depression, rather than an

increase in male prevalence.

The author of the report, Professor Paul Bebbington, of
University College Medical School in London, used data from the
National Survey of Psychiatric Morbidity to test the hypothesis that the excess of depression in women disappears in the post-menopausal years and that obvious social explanations for this are inadequate. Lay interviewers carried out psychiatric assessments of a random sample of 9,762 people.

The study was unsuccessful in explaining the findings in terms of social variables, such as marital sex, child-care or employment

status, and therefore cannot rule out the suggestion that the dip io rates of depression after the menopause is directly related to the passage through the meoopause.

HEALTH

Solvent abuse death toll rises

A "most alarming" rise in deaths from solvent abuse was reported to Parliament by the Government yesterday. The public health minister, Tessa Jowell, told the Commons that fatalities rose to 68 in 1995, compared with 58 the year before. The study, published by St George's Hospital Medical School in

London, showed there had been a steady decline from a peak of 151 deaths in 1990.

Ms Jowell said: "This increase in deaths, after such an encouraging downward trend in previous years, is most alarming. "Equalling distressing is the recognition that every one of these 68 deaths was preventable and might have been avoided if the individuals concerned had been fully aware of the potentially fatal consequences of solvent abuse."





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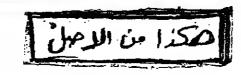
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DECEMBERS OF THE POST OF THE P



Cooper (right) and other literary names were ehind the tills as well as on the shelves at Hatchards bookshop in Piccadilly, central

London, yesterday, to celebrate the royal bookseller's 200th anniversary, writes Louise Jury. Antonio Carluccio the restaurateur, was in cookery on the third floor, and Sebastian Faulks could be spotted in biography on the ground floor. The bookstore has had celebrations underway for some time with its

> Salman Rushdie Photograph: Tony Buckingham

annual authors of the year party in May attended by authors such as AS Byatt, Hammond Innes PD James and



Authors brought to book over missing deadlines

Louise Jury

It was a move likely to send a shiver down the spine of every author in the land. The American division of HarperCollins has cancelled 70 books because the writers missed their deadline.

arm was insisting yesterday that no such drastic action was contemplated here, the very notion gave some literary agents and writers apoplexy. Missed deadlines have been long regarded as par for the

course.

David Godwin, agent for writers including Ben Okri and current bestseller Arundhati Roy, said what had happened in America was "extraordinary, shocking, ridicu-

"Nearly all authors are late. Probably 10 per cent are on time. but most are late for all kinds of perfectly obvious reasons," he said.
"It would be catastrophic to have that kind of rule of thumb. It's just an excuse - they are just trying to get rid of most of their books.

Certainly the company in America has been having a tough time. It posted losses of around £4.3m for the last quarter of the financial year. In Britain, it has, like many

publishers, been cutting back its lists of new titles in recent years from a peak of 600-700 to 500 now. However, it still points proudly to a list of authors from Jeffrey Archer to JG Ballard and Jung

Chang. Giles Gordon, agent for Fay Wel-

Harts reducined lower French and relies fine care. Internets work bests could



SIR EDWARD HEATH

memoirs since leaving office in 1975. He signed a contract with Weidenfeld In 1985, but no book has been forthcoming. This year signed a new contract with Hodder Headline.

don and Peter Ackroyd, said pub-

lishers were perfectly entitled to cancel books if authors did not

Most did not, but "times are

tough" in the industry at present.

If a publisher paid an advance and

the book was delivered a year

late, the outlay was outstanding for another year as well. "The author

says it doesn't matter, but often it

adhere to a delivery date.

does," Mr Gordon said.



NORMA MAJOR

Yet producing a book is difficult.

Mr Gordon represents one author who needs lawyers' letters before

And Barry Unsworth, the Book-

er Prize-winning author, was "in-variably late" because he took

"infinite trouble" in his writing, Mr

He thinks he will be able to

Has toyed with the idea of



She admitted that probably her time of greatest anxiety was when she was writing her book about Chequers. "I felt very pressured by deadlines passing."

he can get his books in.

Gordon said.



DOUGLAS ADAMS

The author of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy is notorious for needing bullying to produce. His editor, Sue Freestone, moves in to his home to oversee writing when deadlines ioom.

have always waited." Yet Peter Ack-

royd and Fay Weldon both pro-duced prolifically and punctually.

"Peter Ackroyd manuscripts pile

up like aircraft over Heathrow. He

delivers a book about every nine

months and is never late," Mr Gor-

Another agent, Lisa Eveleigh, said most publishers did not mind



SHIRLEY CONRAN

Earlier this year, she announced she was suing her publishers for alleged breach of a £750,000 contract. She said she had agreed two postponements for her new novel, but made the final deadline. They thought she was four

delivery. I would imagine all these authors are extremely surprised," she said.

Many publishers were stream-

lining their books, aiming in do few-er better, she said. "It's probably a healthy thing for the industry at the end of the day. But some careers will end because of this." Mark Le Fanu, of the Society of Authors, said he had heard of no

company cutting a swathe through

ist, said she was good at deadlines when she was writing journalism.
Books were a different matter.
"I had to run like hell with A
Welsh Childhood. I was idling along

> loom," she said.
>
> About 18 months ago, she agreed to write a new book that was due this November. She has written a page and a half and has to go to Mexico for some research. It will be late.

its lists like the American division

very frustrating and difficult for anthors," he said. But traditional-ly the publisher-author relationship

was considered "crucial" and pub-

about loyalty. But the whole state

of publishing is in such flex that

publishers are no longer loyal to authors so authors move about

Alice Thomas Ellis, the novel-

and then the deadline started to

lishers tried not to unset it.

more than they did."

"Books do get cancelled and it's

of HarperCollins.

Tony Lacey, publishing director of Penguin, said his company had some contracts that went back as much as seven or eight years. Some authors were notorious for their tardiness.

Academic publishing was less concerned about deadlines because the advances were small therefore there was less money outstanding. Deadlines were more of an issue with big advances. "Throwing the money out there into a hole is a bit alarming."

So you don't like Mondays? It's all in your mind

The grumpy mood and inability to get out of "Things have changed a lot bed that characterises many people's Monday though. There used to be great talk mornings may be all in the mind, according

to a new study.

Research to be discussed at the annual meeting of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, which begins today, found that people who believe that they will suffer from the "Monday Blues"

that they will suffer from the "Monday Blues" are more likely to experience them.

Giles Croft, a 24-year-old medical student who designed and carried out the study, set up three sample groups of 22 people. One group received a copy of a "report" entitled: "Monday Blues - The Myth", which refuted the existence of Monday-related depression and, using graphs, emphasised that it was no different to any other weekday.

The second received a report entitled "Monday Blues - Here to stay" emphasising

"Monday Blues - Here to stay", emphasising the bad moods associated with Mondays and

illustrated with a graph "proving" this. The third group received nothing at all.

All participants also wrote a "daily mood diary" for two weeks, in which they wrote measures of how they had felt and ranked days of the week retrospectively in terms of feelings.
"We used the "Monday blues" because

they're not a recognised phenomenon. We used them because I thought I would be able to ma-

nipulate people into thinking they did or didn't exist," Mr Croft said.

The results showed that un Mundays the "anti-blues" group reported significantly more positive feelings (enthusiastic, inspired and strong) than the "pro-blues" group. When average scores for each day were ranked, the

"pro-blues" group rated Monday as the worst day of the week, while the "anti-blues" did not. The manipulation appears to have worked for concurrent reports yet when asked to recall how they felt over two weeks afterwards each group came back saying Monday was the worst. They persuaded themselves with hindsight."

Mr Croft concluded that direct manipulation of expectations can affect mood. This, they say, could have implications fur the way people see themselves in clinical situations, for example, their expectations of illness. It also shows, they say, the "relative unreliability" of restrospective self-reports of mood.

Hold on a second; this is the year's longest. And it matters

write a book in two years and it as long as they were told. "Two nev-takes three or four. His publishers er had a contract cancelled for late

don said.

Charles Arthur Science Editor

Despite appearances, today is the longest day of the year. Whereas every other day simply has 24 hours, today has a total of 24

hours and I second.

Due to the Earth's slowing rotation, would not find themselves out of means that the millennium will octed the depending on their time cur on time.

300,000 years – that they can detect the varying rotational speed of alert insomniacs awake at lam this morning would have heard six zone. pips, rather than five, before the long pip at the hour. The extra second was added on at the same time across the world, so that satellite systems and high-speed data links

Without such coordination, navigation equipment could become catastrophically misaligned, lead-

While the need for the extra

"leap second", added on at 0000 GML might not have been abvious with older timepieces, modern ing airplanes in fly far off course. atomic caesium clocks are so ac-Happily, the adjustment also curate to less than one second in

our planet, caused by the interactinn of tidal "friction" from the gravitational pull of the sun and Moon, and the fluid composition

of the Earth's core. The International Earth Rotation Service, based at the Paris Observatory, determines from time to time that an extra second must be added to the time. Today's was the 21st leap second to be introduced since the caesium-based "Universal Coordinated Time" (UTC) was adopted in 1972.



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BA tries to head off a second strike

Talks are to be held aimed ar averting damaging strikes at British Airways after a second group of workers voted to walk

While bopes rose of a peace formula to head off industrial action by the airline's ground staff, cabin crew made a call for 72hour strikes. The recommendation, made at a meeting near Heathrow Airport, will be put to the Transport and General Workers' Union general secretary, Bill Morris, for approval toBut cabin crews are planning to start disrupting flights from next week, says Barrie Clement

mood of the branch members vas "determined" Robert Ayling, chief executive of BA, said last night that he was prepared to discuss the terms

the company's catering division which is to be sold off. The union earlier in the day announced that 4,150 of its BA airport workers had voted for strikes in protest at the sell-off

and conditions of employees at

posed on stewards and stewardesses which prompted a 70 per cent vote by cabin crew for action. But prospects for such talks seemed to be less likely.

Mr Morris pointedly re-marked that calls for strikes by cahin crew staff would not be irrevocable and simply consti-

the final responsibility. That could mean action being suspended while talks took place. Mr Ayling welcomed a letter

from the transport union leader which paved the way for talks over the dispure involving ground staff. He said the company had been calling for discussions on the catering self-off since 17 April and saw no rearuted a recommendation. Mr son why there should not be a

of nearly 70 per cent. Mr Ayling refused to rule out negotiations on a pay and conditions deal imnext couple of days". He be-lieved he enjoyed "a good per-sonal relationship" with Mr

While not ruling out negoti-ations with cabin crew, he repeated his assertion rhat their resentatives had walked out of talks and pointed out that the minority union, Cabin Crew '89, bad accepted the formula.

crew section of the transport union, to put aside "militant language" and discuss its future reationship with BA.

If either of the strikes went ahead, Mr Ayling said the air-line was determined to keep services operating "as normally as possible", but it was too early to assess what kind of impact industrial action might have on the timetable.

George Ryde, national offi-

cial of the TGWU, said the h2.5 per cent strike vote by the airline's airport workers, was exceptional given the "ferocious pressure and intimidation" they bad suffered at the bands of

management. He accused the of industrial company "terrorism". Managers bad told bis members that they had been in-structed to threaten them with

dire consequences if they opt-

ed for walkouts. He warned that there could be safety implications if newly recruited strike breakers helped to operate aircraft. The £300 a day some of them bud been offered, would he welcomed by his own mem-

Mr Ryde called on the company to negotiate "in an adult and mature way" so that the tbreat of strikes could be lifted. The T&G official warned that the action would not be lim-

ited to Britain and that he had

elicited support from ahroad.

Behind the wire, loyal staff learn the airlines secret strategy to break a union

Barrie Clement

If British Airways is hit by industrial action, management will have con-siderable difficulty in emulating the industrial coup de grace delivered by Ruperb Murdoch at his Wapping

plant more than a decade ago.

Despite dismissing 5,000 of his print workers. Mr Murdoch produced all four of his newspapers with the help of a "ghost" army of new recruits. Robert Ayling, chief executive of BA, has already lined up a large group of lemporary workers to keep the airline's flag flying and with the help of managers and non-strikers will doubtless he able to provide a timetable of some sort if cabin crew and ground staff walk out. Unlike the media baron, however, there is little chance of a full service from day

Apart from the attentions of pick- there is no one at their destination



Flying squad: British Airways managers are learning how to stow baggage and tow planes into position at an RAF base at Wroughton in Wiltshire

ets and the inevitable delays caused by inexperienced staff, Mr Ayling will be unable to control the activity - or lack of it - of airport workers abroad.

The Transport & General Workers Union has spent much of the last year garnering support from foreign unions - especially in the USA and Europe. The International Transport Workers' Federation argues that take off from Heathrow and Gatwick, they could well find that

to unload the plane or refuel it. Workers in most other developed countries are unfettered by laws

banning secondary action introduced by the last government. Io many cases there would be no means of forcing reluctant employees to process BA flights. Management's best hope would be

that the international pledges of support fail to materialise as they have shown how to stow haggage and has been training new cabin crew. bers of the smaller union and nonficial of the transport union, has been ceived as a means of providing and stewardesses for flights, the ha- over-zealous pickets and offer means conflict at Wapping.

soliciting solidarity abroad, the airline has made its own detailed preparations under the so-called snow plan". As revealed last December by The Independent, some 1,600 managers - about half the total at Heathrow - have been trained to break the strike. Many of them have been taken to RAF Wroughton, Wiltshire, where they have been

between 50 and 75 per cent of services during severe weather. Under "soow plan Mark II" managers will be charged with keeping a limited timetable operating. Documents seen by this newspaper showed managers would need to work as ground staff for between four and six weeks until contractors could be brought in. air.

It is also thought that the company

sic safety skills can be imparted within a week, although fresh recruits would have to work under the supervision of experienced personnel. With the help of members of Cabin Crew '89, an organisation which broke away from the TGWU, the airline could keep aircraft in the

Senior managers have told mem-

of smuggling themselves into work. In a ploy reminiscent of the Wapping dispute, strike breakers were also promised secret collection points for coach services. Others will have taxi fares of up £75 paid and those who chose to use their own vehicles have been assured that car parks would be guarded.

If the dispute goes ahead the determination to win on both union and in most other industrial conflicts.

While George Ryde, national ofThe snow plane was originally contakes six weeks to prepare stewards attempt to ensure protection against dispute became quite as hitter as the

Child sex couple fight for right to remain anonymous

Social Affairs Correspondent

A couple convicted of "horrendous" sex crimes against children bad their human rights to a private life breached when police informed a caravan site owner dren into the North Wales they were living on bis site, the

gypsics, left with "no place to run, no place to hide" The couple, who cannot be

named for legal reasons, have the couple had originally tried had to move bouse four times in six months. They say that North Wales Police untawfully leaked their records and are seeking the legal right to keep their identities secret from the

The case was heard vesterday in the High Court by Britain's police informed the site owner Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bing-

Presiley Baxendale QC, for the police, argued that their action amounted to "taking steps to prevent crime". She said police had feared an influx of chilcaravan site as the holiday

High Court heard yesterday.
They were forced off the site as a result with fewer rights than sitive issue in the area since the murder two years ago of sevenyear-old Sophie Hook.

In the case heard vesterday, to set up home in Blyth. Northumhria after heing released from prison.

Thwarted there, they moved to Colwyn Bay but were discovered by rbe press and then moved on to the caravan site. On the 27 March this year, the

of their identity. Stephen Solley QC, for the

"step too far - unjustifiable, un-

reasonable and unlawful." He said as a result the couple had "come close to answering the ancient definition of outlaws ... devoid of the beneht of law or kings" - in modern parlance they had "nowhere to tun, nowbere to hide."

The barrister said it had been foolbardy to reveal the identity of the couple in this way in that it could have led to vigilante attacks and the police did not follow them to check on their safety

They [the couple] were afraid of personal repercus-sions. The applicants were very concerned not to be found out by the public as it was potentially

dangerous."
The lawver said the police had acted outside their powers. They had to use the caravan owner to do what they wanted

ham, sitting with Mr Justice couple, said that this was a to do themselves. They knew Buxton. "step too far - unjustifiable, until they were treading on dodgy

ground. He asked why the police had not instead put the couple under survelance or instead informed more suitable people. There is nothing wrong in principle with informing head teachers or people in that sort

of position."
But Ms Baxendale said the case had been "carefully considered at senior level after multi disciplinary discussions". She said the police's motive had been to prevent crime because the couple had presented a "grave risk to the public".

She denied that the police had been motivated by a Not In My Back Yard - Nimby - attitude with both police and other agencies trying to settle the couple in the area rather than making them move out. Judgement was reserved.

Council gives way to pressure for independent abuse inquiry

Buckinghamshire County Council yesterday bowed to government pressure and agreed to set up an independent inquiry into the abuse of mentally disabled people in two private care homes.

After long resisting calls for further investigation, the coun-cil acted within hours of a stern request from the health minister Paul Boateng who met authority leaders last week.

Mike Appleyard, chairman of the social services committee. said that the issues had been studied by the Department of Health, the Social Services Inspectorate and the Local Governmenr Ombudsman. But they agreed with the minister that "another detailed look at this long-running and complex case may be helpful". The council will set up the inquiry as soon as possible and the results will be pub-lished, Mr Appleyard said. Residents at two homes run

by Longcare Ltd in Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire, were subjected to physical and sexual abuse over a 10-year period. Angela Rowe, the former co-owner of the homes, was jailed for two-and-a-half years last month for ill-treating residents in her care. Another member of staff was also jailed and another fined. Her husband.

Gordon, committed suicide a day before he was due to he charged by police. Families of victims were severely critical of Buckinghamshire council, which had failed to detect any signs of

Mr Boateng was understood ro have been unhappy with an-swers he received from mem-

bers of the council at the

abuse despite being responsible for regulating the homes.

meeting last week. In his letter to David Shakespeare, the council leader, yesterday, Mr Boateng said there were still lessons to he learned about the way Buckinghamshire had carried out its regulatory powers.

"After my long discussion with your member and officers I remain concerned that the magnitude of the risk to people with learning disabilities receiving residential and other services is not properly appreciated in your authority."

He said an inquiry should examine the decision not to cancel the registration of Longcare immediately the abuse was discovered. It should also look at the adequacy of the current services for people with learning disabilities and the effectiveness and reliability of the regulation

of residential care homes. Mr Boateng said: "I am de-termined that perseverance and of a regulatory system which must be seen to protect weak or vulnerable people."

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The decision was welcomed by Pauline Hennessey, whose late sister Janet Ward was said to have been raped by Gordon Rowe. Mrs Hennessey said: "I'm absolutely delighted. The families feel that an awful lot could be learned from the failures of Buckinghamshire. It's an important step forward for peo-

with learning difficulties for their protection in future." Kevin Grealis, a solicitor representing several victims who seek compensation, said the families had long wanted an independent inquiry. However, he asked that it should not delay any civil proceedings. The council should not be allowed to use the inquiry as a reason ro put off court hearings on the compensation issue, he said.

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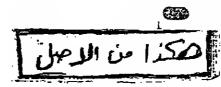
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Internet could get cinema-style X-ratings in purge on porn

British experts will oext week propose cinema-style ratings for Internet sites to a meeting of European ministers, with the backing of the US and Aus-

The move is part of an attempt to censor the level of sexual and violent content that would be available to childreo over the sprawling global network - though opposeots say it could instead lead to the widespread curbs on free expression.

However, David Kerr, chief executive of the privately-funded Internet Watch Foundation, which since December has acted as a clearing-house for reports of obscene material in Britain on the octwork, is confident that his group has devised an effective form. "The case for ratings is a very strong one, in that it doesn't block anybody's right to speak." he said yesterday.

He will address mioisters next Monday in Bonn at the "Global Information Networks" conference. He expects them to "endorse and move forward" the proposals, which are being developed with the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) and RSAC, a commercially-owned US group.

Mr Kerr is also planning to

Malcolm Hetty, of the Campaign against Internet Censorship in Britain, pointed out that ratings systems can lead to hizarre cootradictions: for example, they might prevent children reading a fictional story in which a boxer bites off an oppooeot's ear, and yet "news" sites could show video clips and reports of Mike Tysoo doing just that to Evander Holy-field. "It would rate as highly offensive in a ratings system, but almost every newspaper has decided it's highly oewsworthy and put it on the froot page." A ratings system would gen-

erally be used by the creator of a web site to put "labels" visi ble only to computer software of a site. Parents could set label-reading software to pre vent childreo viewing sites that were rated as too "adult".

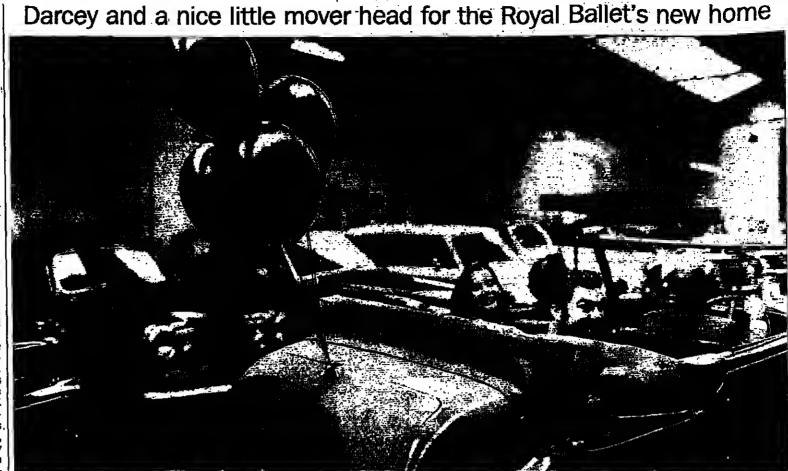
Mr Kerr said the backing of the US and Australia was crucial. "It's oot effective to set up a UK system oo its own ... bot with ABC and RSAC we can get a world approach to ratings."

He admitted that "oews

sites could preveot a problem, aod added that Internet Watch had already recognised others: "Many Shakespeare plays go be-

fice and the Department of limits you might set. But there's a way of putting in a 'cultural a way of putting in a 'cultural context' bypass.

Very few sites use ratings are esent, as one has never needed a licence to write a web site. There are tens, if not hundreds of thousands of web sites in the UK, but only 1,419 have ratings. Worldwide, only 3,500 are rated, compared to many millions which are oot. Mr Kerr said, "Another 150 are rated every day" -- but the network's growth means that ratings are falling be-



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BUSINESS JUST GOT AN EDGE.



Too hot: Britain is keen to get backing for Internet censorship to protect children from indecent material

Hillsborough relatives win fresh inquiry

Kathy Marks

It took the screening of a television programme, and a change of government, but vesterday relatives of football fans who died at Hillsborough finally secured a review of how the disaster was handled. The Home Secretary, Jack

Straw, told the House of Commons that Lord Justice Stuari-Smith a senior Court of Appeal judge, would scrutinise new video and medical evidence relating to the deaths of 96 fans at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough stadium in April 1989.

Mr Straw said that the judge would advise him whether the evidence, which is believed to challenge the police version of events at the stadium, was significant coough for a full pub-lic ioquiry to be held. Lord Justice Stuart-Smith

would also examine any other material submitted by interested parties, he said, and would ideotify any relevant evidence for the Attorney General, the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire police.

Mr Straw's statement followed a long campaign for a fresh investigation by lamilies of the victims, who were invited to London to be briefed by him on details of the review.

The supporters were crushed to death after police decided to open gates to let people into the Leppings Lane terrace at the FA Cup semi-final match between Liverpool and Nonlingham For-

Mr Straw said: "I hope that this examination will enable us to establish conclusively whether or not material evidence ... has been overlooked. We owe it to everyone touched

the families of those who died. to get to the bottom of this matter once and for all.

Despite earlier inquiries, he said, "coocerns have remaioed about whether the full facts have yet emerged. The suffering of relatives had been "exacerbated by their belief that there are unresolved issues which should

be investigated further". The video evidence consists of a tape taken from a surveillance camera trained on the Leppings Lane staod, which shows events between noon and 5.22pm and is believed to be clear coough to identify faces of individual fans. Police told the inquest in 1990 and an inquiry by the late Lord Taylor that they were unaware of the huild-up of fans in the pens because the

camera was not working. Calls for a fresh investigation gained momentum after the broadcasting last December of a documentary drama by Jimmy McGovern, which suggested that officers must have known that the terraces were severely overcrowded.

The medical evidence suggests that more could have heen done to save lives. Dr Ed Walker, who treated injured fans, says that one teenager was still alive 25 mioutes after the coroner decided that the victims must have been dead. The families believe the new evidence calls into question the inquest verdicts of accidental death. Lord Taylor laid most of the blame at the door of the police.

Since the tape came to light in March, the Crown Prosecutioo Service has been reviewing the case to establish whether there is sufficient evidence to bring charges against any police

23-NP-IN-A-9-01

British Medical Association conference: Leaders say extra NHS cash must come from public funds

Doctors reject extension of patient charges

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

Hospital waiting lists will rise to record levels this winter unless more movey is found for the National Health Service, the British Medical Association warned yesterday.

at the heart of the NHS and an extra £1ho a year is oeeded for the next five years if it is to continue providing a full range of treatments, doctors' leaders said. That is equivalent to an extra £17 a year per head of population a year, or 30p a weck. the price of a Mars har.

Without extra funds there was no hope of the Government keeping to its election pledge to cut waiting lists by 100,000, the cut waiting lists by 100,000, the association's annual conference ermment that threatened to in Edinburgh was told yesterday. The meeting decisively rejected calls for an extension of patient charges and for an earmarked health tax, which is reported to be under consideration by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, under the 'no holds

barred public spending review. But the meeting agreed by a narrow majority of 142 votes to 128 to look for other sources of finance for the NHS.

The looming prospect of an NHS crisis was the only issue that galvanised doctors, who otherwise appeared content to wait there were widely diverging

views oo how the shortage of funds should be tackled.

Dr Joan Black, of west Berkshire, said a feeling of desper-ation was overwhelming NHS staff struggling to maintain standards. At least 120 NHS trusts and 69 health authorities arned yesterday. had begun the year in deficit and
There is a financial black hole £10bo was needed for capital repairs. "The shabblest huilding in the neighbourhood is often the local hospital," she said. Dr Jonathan Reggler, a GP

in Buckinghamshire, said the nation faced three choices: to pay more in tax for the NHS, to raise more through patient charges or to do nothing "and watch the NHS die".

The public had demonstrated its reluctance to pay more tax raise tax rates and an earmarked health tax would do oothing to curb rising demand, he said. Charging £10 for a GP or out-patient visit and imposing hotel charges for hospital stays could raise £500m a year, half the total the BMA said was necessary.

"The NHS is evolving and the way we pay for it must evolve, too," Dr. Reggler said.

Other speakers dismissed the fatalism of those who argued that the country could not afford the NHS. Dr Peter Bennie of Glasgow, chairman of the junior doctors, said charging patients



Casualty: Doctors say without extra funds the Government has no hope of fulfilling election pledges to cut waiting lists Photograph: Tom Pilston

hospital doctor and Liberal Democrat MP for Oxford West, said NHS spending should be raised to the level of comparahle countries. To cheers he added: "The BMA must put down a marker now. It must fight, fight and fight again for the

Earlier, Dr Sandy Macara, chairman of BMA Council. told the conference that extra money for the NHS should be provided "unequivocally and explicitly from public funds. Speaking to reporters later, he said the conference vote in favour of examining alternative ment would deliver. However, the heart of the welfare state", by tactical move, to prepare to Dentists Review Body was over-Dr Evan Harris, a former comhat proposals that might be whelmingly rejected.

put by the Government after the spending review. "You don't bave the ammunition to shoot down mad ideas unless you have the evideoce," he said. The BMA has been looking

at ways of raising money for the NHS since 1988 and had found nothing as fair, acceptable or efficient as direct taxation he said. ■ Doctors at the BMA's conference voted unanimously yesterto condemn the Government's "persistent ma-nipulation" of their recom-

mended pay rises. Another motion calling for the resignation of the chairman and all members

Telemedicine could save one in four beds

Charles Arthur Science Editor

Telemedicine could save hospital beds and belp health care -but the technology's "glitz and glamour" should not be used to overstate its benefits, doctors warned yesterday.

ity telephone and video links to let doctors see, talk to and diagnose patients remotely. It can redoce the oeed for hospital beds and allow people to use specialists who are geographically distant.

Richard Wootton, director of the Institute of Telemedicine at Queeo's University, Belfast, said he wanted to see telemedicine iotegrated so that it is a routine part of the NHS. But he said it should be dooe caoit as they have in the US.

"Some of the glitz and glamour shouldn't be allowed to eclipse the more practical matters such as whether it is more cost-effective," he said. "What we've seen in the States is commercial act. Some of us are concerned that major commercial interests are amassing in the wings ... who will try to drive the development of telemedicine before it can be shown to be a cost-effective

method of health care." Yesterday, doctors at a telemedicine conference at the Royal Society of Medicioe were shown demonstrations of remote-cootrolled brain surgery. Sir Christopher Paine, pres-

tionsly, warning that companies ident of the Royal Society of bent on profit might dominate Medicine, said: "The risks inclode things like patient confidentiality ... and the risk that the patient isn't always face-to-

face with the doctor. But the rewards of telemedicine could be considerable. several doctors said. Paul John-John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, said telemedicine had

helped free 10 percent of beds for babies and young children. The underdeveloped hugs of premature babies are particularly vulnerable to infection: "A little infection can tip them over," he said. But such babies cope much better at home, with their families. Telemedicine lets parents hook small monitors to a baby and send data down the telephone to doctors.

Haughey lawyers admit £1.3m payment

Brigadiof And backed file

was at codes with the brain

Mini

waste

REVER OUT OF

Charles Arthur

Alan Murdoch

Lawyers for Charles Haughey vesterday admitted for the first time that £1.3m from supermarket chief Ben Dunne did "in all probability" reach the then frish premier between 1987 and 1991.

The former Taioseach's legal counsel, Eoin McGonigal, told the payments-to-politicians tribunal at Duhlin Castle that evidence from the former Fianna Fail party leader would show that cheques probably did reach Dublin bank accounts controlled on his behalf.

This is the first time Mr Haughey's side has indicated he did benefit from alleged gifts detailed earlier to the tribunal by Mr Duone, Until now, Mr Haughey in correspondence had denied knowledge of the

payments. But Mr McGonigal said the evidence would also show the politician did not know the money came from Mr Dunne.

Mr Haughey has now agreed to testify to the tribunal, probably later this month, after beiog subpoenaed.

Mr McGonigal said docu-ments would also contest the now-celebrated claim by Mr Dunne that he dropped in for tea with a depressed-looking Mr Haughey at the latter's house in late 1991 and gave him three hank drafts worth £210,000 with the words, "Here's some-thing for yourself," to which Mr Haughey had reportedly replied "Thanks, big fella."

The tribunal, also heard between £30m and £40m passed through secret numbered sterling and Deutschmark accounts in Guinness Mahon bank in Dublin, though it was not suggested the bulk of this went to the politician.

Funds taken from these accounts were used to pay Mr Haughey's living expenses and to secure a loan to the heliconter firm controlled by Mr Haughey's son Ciaran.

Counsel for the tribunal, De-is McCullough, revealed a critical breakthrough in the tribunal's bank investigations. He confirmed that £105,000 of a £182,000 sterling cheque from Dunnes Stores Bangor account in Northern Ireland had definitely gone via a London account to the ACC Bank in Duhlin to pay off loans to Mr Haughey.

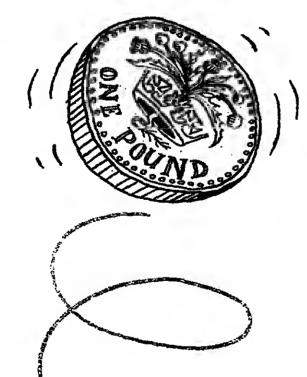
The tribunal resumed its

hearings yesterday after adjourning for last mooth's gen-





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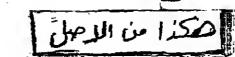


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Churchill's envoy fought his own secret war

Brigadier who backed Tito was at odds with top brass

John Crossland

Fitzroy Maclean, the maverick Highland laird chosen by Churchill as his personal emis-sary to Tito, fought his own private war with his cominal superiors in the Special Oper-ations Executive (SOE) who were jealous of his special link

with the Prime Minister. Top-secret SOE files released yesterday at the Public Record Office give an often startling account of the stormy relationship between Maclean and the sabotage organisation, prompted by their disagreement over the importance of Tito.

At the time Maclean parachuted into Yugoslavia in Sep-tember 1943, Tito was dismissed as a peripheral figure in the re-sistance. By the following spring, such had heen Maclean's impact regarding Tito and the organisation of the communists' partisan campaign that Churchill withdrew support to the Yugoslav royalist leader General Draza Mihailovich. Until then, the SOE in London



with parachute drops amounting to £400,000 in gold hars. Maclean alienated SOE's headquarters echelon in Baker Street, London, by openly de-fying their orders when be found it convenient, and up-holding the Titoist cause of a socialist Yugoslavia against

the official Foreign Office line.

Lord Selborne and the Baker Street "regulars" had not wanted him in the first place, dismissing him contemptuous ly in a report as having had negligible military training: his experience consisting of a small raiding party behind enemy lines in Libya, without having a shot fired in anger".

This was the operation for which Maclean, had received the Croix de Guerre, and his promotion on heing assigned to Yugoslavia was spectacular - captain to hrigadier in a few months. The SOE memo questioned bow he would fare with a partisan commander who ex-

battle experience and suitable

In February 1944, Baker Street tried to reassert its authority over Maclean and the Yugoslavian mission, responsihility they they said they want-ed to be rid of. Maclean was called to a meeting where he was required by Selborne and

head of SOE, to agree to documents strictly detailing his responsibilities and allegiances. General Gubbins minuted Henry Sporberg, Vice Chief of Staff SOE, on 10 May 1944: "I wish to put on record my feeling of alarm that Brigadier Maclean

lonely furrow without owing alment. From the security point of view such practices are most undesirable and should be ter-minated as soon as possible."

He said SOE could no longer accept responsibility for Maclean's security "as we have no real knowledge of his activshould continue to plough a



whose support for Tito was crucial and (below) British operations in

ities and no apparent control of them. If anything were to go wrong, we should be regarded as owning him and if everything goes right I am convinced we shall get a very small share of the credit." Gubbins said Maclean had shown himself to be "completely freelance".

The film actor Anthony
Quayle, star of many Second

World War dramas, played a real-life role in undercover operations for SOE in Albania, the

In his report on one such operation, defailing the blowing up of a bridge by partisans at the village of Palasso, he says: "The reprisals the Huns carried out resulted in the villagers running like rabbits to the hills."

Ministers admit nuclear waste was dumped in sea

Science Editor

The Government was urged yesterday to set up an immediate public inquiry after it emerged that false statements had been made to Parliament since 1984 over the dumping of radioactive waste in the Irish

Documents discovered at the Public Records Office showed that during the 1950s, roughly two tonnes of concrete-encased metal drums, filled with laboratory rubbish and luminous paint, were dropped into the Irish Sea's Beaufort Dyke, 300 metres deep and 10 kilometres off the Scottish coast and close to busy shipping lanes.

sisted that the waste itself, classified as low-level and intermediate-level, would pose no risk to health. However MPs and pressure groups yesterday insisted that it showed flaws in the accountability of the Ministry of Defence, the Scot-

Food, which has taken responsibility for monitoring the waste. The seven-mile-loog strip of Beaufort Dyke has been used as a munitions dump by the Ministry of Defence since the 1920s. The previous government admitted that at east one million tonnes of

Agriculture, Fisheries and and said that a formal Commons announcement - probably in response to a written parliamentary question - will follow either today or later this week.

John Large, an independent nuclear consulting eogineer, said: "This is a very serious issue. The nuclear industry describes waste as being low,

You have the risk of radioactivity being taken up by fish and ending up on a landing slab in Grimsby'

cluding some with chemical warmned there. But since 1984, ministers had denied that any radioactive waste was disposed there, based on data from an independent report which said it was dumped in the mid-Atlantic in water 2,000 metres deep.

But vesterday, the Scottish

NEVER OUT OF TOUCH . NEVER OUT OF POCKET

bombs, rockets and shells, in- intermediate or high level. But these terms apply to waste on land. As soon as you unzip that can underwater it doesn't matter. It is like a leaking

> "Here you have the risk of radioactivity being taken up by plankton and then by fish where

a slow and gradual process.

teahag and the uptake would be

tish Office and the Ministry of Office confirmed the report, it ultimately ends up on the landing slab at Grimsby."

Details about the dumping of the waste, from private companies including defence contractor Ferranti, have only recently emerged, according to a Scottish Office

In contacts with London yesterday, Ireland's natural resources minister. Michael Woods, expressed "deep concern" at the revelation.

Eamon Gilmore, the junior marine minister in the outgoing Irish government, accused the former Tory administration of misleading the Duhlin authorities over the issue.

He said that while he was in office he had been assured by that the Beaufort Dyke dump contained no nuclear waste. Radioactive emissions from Sellof lengthy controversy in Ireland amid claims of unusually high cancer rates in the Dundalk area on Ireland's east coast.



How Manchester kept up its guard

David Keys Archaeology Correspondent

Manchester had a grander medieval past than historians had suspected, archaeologists have said after discoveries ed by the IRA bomb that dev-

astated the city centre last

An 18th-century account of the city claimed that medieval Manchester had been protected by a massive defensive ditch, but modern academics had considered this highly un likely. They maintained that pre-industrial Manchester was simply too small to need such defences. Now, however, a team from

the University of Manchester archaeology unit has discovered just such a ditch, 30ft across and 15-20ft deep. To-gether with the rivers Irwell and Irk the 3,000ft ditch would have defended a sub-stantial area of some 40 acres. Adjacent to it there was almost certainly a stone wall or palisaded bank.

The ditch was discovered during current redevelopment work necessitated by the IRA bomb in June last year.

Historians know that beween the 1st and 4th centuries AD Manchester (the Castlefield area) flourished as small Roman fort and town called Mamucium, a contraction of the words "breast hill", named after the hill on which the town stood.

Then, in Anglo-Saxon times. Manchester was re-estahlished one and a half miles to the North. The bottom part of the dirch may date from late in the Anglo-Saxon period when, in 923AD, chronicles records that King Edward the Elder sent troops to Manchester "to repair and garrison it". However, the top part of

the newly discovered ditch appears to date from the 13th century and archaeologists found that it was filled with leather off-cuts - waste material from what seems to have been Manchester's until now unknown first industrial revolution.



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Thirteen guilty in £65m drugs smuggling ring



Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

A leading gangster, who was acquitted of the Brinks-Mat bullion robbery, is one of 13 people convicted for involvement in a £65m international drugs-smuggling ring, it was revealed yesterday.

ning, it was revealed yesterday.

Details of the longest ever undercover operation by Customs and Excise were made public, following nearly two years of complex interlocking trials.

The operation, codenamed Stealer,

The operation, codenamed Stealer, resulted in the arrests of a number of high-profile criminals, including Anthony White, who was cleared in connection with the £26m Brinks-Matbullion heist in 1984, in which three raidets removed three tons of gold from a storage unit near Heathrow airport.

The extraordinary case involved more than two years of undercover work and led to the seizure of illegal drugs with a street value of £65m – including cocaine worth £57m and cannabis worth more than £8m. Reporting of the trials was prohibited until now, to safeguard the defendants from possible prejudice from earlier cases.

Operation Stealer began in the autumn of 1993, when the Customs and Excise National Investigation Service launched an offensive against internationally organised drugs trafficking

launched an offensive against internationally organised drugs trafficking. Interest soon centred on Tony White. At the Brinks-Mat trial White's coaccused. Michael McAvoy and Brian Robinson, were each jailed for 25 years, while he was cleared because of insufficient evidence.

Smugglers snared in undercover sting by Customs

Within a short time White, who lived in a council house and who was on benefits, spent £219,000 on homes in London and Kent and a further £200,000 on refurbishments.

Spanish police, who raided his villa on the Costa del Sol in 1989, found £115,000, and jewellery worth £100,000. In August 1995, Mr Justice Rimmer, sitting in the High Court, ordered White to repay more than £26,369,778, and pay £2,188,600 in compensation, to insurers for Brinks-Mat, which had sued for the value of the proceeds of the robbery. White's wife was ordered

to pay more than £1m.

Operation Stealer involved a team of up to 30 Customs officers in long-term close surveillance of White and his associates, particularly his "lieutenant" and friend, John Short, 58.

Scotsman Brian Doran also came under scrutiny when he returned from Colombia towards the end of 1993. Doran initially set up bases in luxury London hotels. He was soon enjoying the high life, taking expensive holidays, and huying a yacht and a top-of-the-range

car – always paying in cash.

Customs investigators painstakingly tracked the group's money movements – in Britain. Europe and to North

and South America. Large amounts of cash were allegedly held under false names in safety deposit boxes.

By 1994, investigators were ready to spring a series of traps to capture the

drugs smugglers in action.

In February, one of the gang was trailed to Madrid. A British Customs officer was on hand as Spanish police raided a hotel, where they found 35kg of cocaine and 100kg of cannabis resin.

The Customs undercover team, meanwhile, continued to track other suspects, knowing that more drugs consignments were bound for Britain.

In Sentember a mongraphed oper-

In September, a two-pronged operation netted cocaine worth £7m in a swoop at Dover, and cannahis worth £250,000 in an operation at Fleet services on the M3.

Customs were later able to show that White had used a mobile phone from

a pub to contact people involved in the smuggling, demonstrating his pivotal role as a controller.

In January 1995, the investigators snatched cocaine worth £37m from a cata-

maran in Pevensey Bay, East Sussex.

When Operation Stealer finally closed in, White admitted his part in the Dover and Portsmouth smuggling plots. White was named as a "financier" of the Pevensey Bay plot.

Short admitted a sole charge of involvement in the Dover plot.

Judge John Foley, at Bristol Crown Court, yesterday began hearing mitigation on behalf of seven of the convicted men. He is to consider sentences

on a further six convicted smugglers.

Manicured foot forward as prime beef graces the Royal Show

The footprint of a Charolals, framed in the chalk powder used to whiten the animal before being exhibited in the ring at the Royal Show, which opened yesterday at Stoneleigh in Warwickshire . Photograph: Brian Harris

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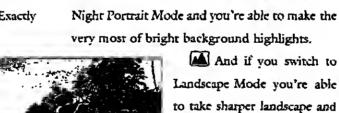
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Welsh Tories out in the cold

The Tories tasted the politics of exclusion yesterday when the Welsh Grand Committee - all 40 MPs in the principality - met al Mold in

A small demonstration was mounted outside the local council's headquarters with a handful of party members showing solidarity with Nigel Evans, MP for Ribble Valley. named by William Hague last month as interlocutor-in-chief on Wales. even though he was denied the title

of shadow Welsh Secretary.

Mr Evans reckoned he should have been invited in because the Tories collected 20 per cent of the Welsbyote on 1 May. However, that was insufficient to win a single seat.

Being opposed to proportional representation hardly made his plea valid. And like Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness, who regularly find Stormont a no-go area, Mr Evans experienced the closed-door treatment. At 39, he is three years older than his leader and almost as relentless in pursuit of his goal.

He did not try to force an entry to the committee, which considers all legislation relating to Wales. "I wouldn't dignify the meeting with my presence. The Welsh Grand is the Welsh bland - a slap in the face of democracy," he complained later. "Totalitarian dictators would be taking a leaf from the book of Welsh seeretary Ron Davies."

The roots of his excursion to Mold from his Lancashire constituency are huried deep in the Tories' post-election confusion. Six weeks ago Mr Davies wrote to his shadow – William Hague – inviting him to nominate Tory MPs from England to participate. The committee's standing orders allow for five such co-options. No reply was forthcom-ing so the meeting in Tory-free Wales went ahead - Tory-free.

Meanwhile, the committee got down to business. For the first time members were permitted to speak in Welsh, if they wished, and Mr Davies announced that he hoped to extend the public finance initiative, with the £1hn Cardiff Bay development scheme an early target.



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Fig. 1. Only 1

Brown's jobs plan derided as fraud aid

Chief Political Correspondent

A senior Tory claimed last night that ministers have been winks about the impact of the warned that social security Budget oo the middle classes fraud on the Government's new welfare to work programme could could blow a massive hole in the Chancellor's Budget

calculations. Iain Duncan Smith, Tory spokesman oo social security, claimed that ministers have signs at Westminster that Mr been warned that the plans, a centrepiece of the Budget, could lead to increased fraud amounting to £300m.

The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, will announce that £750m is to be spent over four years on welfare to work, but Mr Duncan Smith said ministers had been told the system of paying employers to take on young people out of work was open to

Mr Duncan Smith wrote to Frank Field, the social security minister, challenging him over the figures after be brushed aside the claims in the Commons. "Employer subsidies offer a clear opportunity for collusion and fraud," be said.

He also raised doubts that Mr Brown will be able to secure the sources: "You must be joking". £4.7bn savings oo social security fraud which Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor, included in his Budget figures to balance the books. The large sums Mr Clarke relied on saving by tackling social security fraud may have increased the pressure on Mr Brown to raise

taxes in his Budget.
Ministers said the Budget would be less harsh than many were predicting, and that the offices. Ms Harman protested. Chancellor would produce a She told the Commons the balanced package in spite of the reports that he is poised to cut mortgage interest tax relicf previous administration, but mortgage interest tax relief worth £30 a month to those on average earnings and increase ent. "We are determined to stamp duty on house buying.

The pain will be offset by system, she said.

Peter Lilley, shadow Chancellor, said the "oods and were "testing the water for a betrayal of trust" by Labour. He said Mr Brown had stated before the election that there were "no public expenditure commitments which require extra taxes" but there are clear Brown is preparing to blame Mr Clarke for leaving a "black hole" in the accounts.

Mr Brown's wide-raoging package will hit drivers and smokers but the underlying concern is over the rising value of the pound, driven by the speculation surrounding the creation of a single currency with a soft Euro. There are fears that the Bank of England may increase interest rates next week, threatening a further rise in the pound, unless Mr Brown convinces the City that he will damp down inflation.

Tony Blair has been urged to deflate the pound by declaring an intention for early entry to the Euro, but one Labour MP was told by Labour leadership

Meanwhile, the Secretary of State for Social Security, Har-riet Harman, gave a clear sig-nal that she will announce plans to modernise the payments of the benefit system. Ministers want to bring the payment of benefits into one stop" shops with those searching for work.

Queuing, removed from life in the Eastern Bloc, was still a fact of life in Britain's benefits the priorities would be differ-

MPs to rule on sleaze report

Christian Wolmar Westminster Correspondent

The long-awaited report on the cash for questions affair will fi-nally he presented to MPs to-

morrow and will prohably be published within the next week. The report prepared by the Parliameotary Commissioner cash to ask questions. for Standards, Sir Gordon Allegations against two Gov-Downey, will rule on whether ernment ministers accused of Neil Hamilton, the ex-Conservative MP who lost his Tattoo seat to Martin Bell at the geoeral election, accepted cash for asking questions on behalf of Mohamed al Payed, the owner of Harrods. It will also examine allegations against a oumber of

other ex-MPs and MPs. The report will be presented to the Standards and Privileges Committee at its first meeting of the new parliamentary session today. Although it will probably not publish the report straight away, there is concern that unless they issue it quick-

ly, its contents may leak out. Mr Hamilton bas admitted lying about £10,000 he received from the lobbyist Ian Greer, hut has consistently denied taking

failing to declare an expensespaid trip to meet the Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic could be referred to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, Speaker Betty Boothroyd said yesterday. David Clark, civil service minister, and John Reid, a defence minister, have dismissed newspaper claims their trip in 1993. when both were shadow defence

frier defe







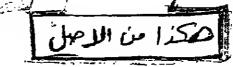


DAILY POEM Sto Seeking Fragrant Plan

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Aitken's friends rally to defend

libel 'lies'

no ministerial conduct.

perjure themselves.

To cover this up, he was pre-

Mr Aitkeo is believed to be

m the United States where he

is negotiating a book about the

among them politicians and

journalists who are in touch with

him, present a different scenario

Mr Aitkeo had realised, af-

He had asked his wife Loli-

their daughter into a new school

and pay the hill. She promised

him that she had dooe this, and

it was oot until too late that he

pared to let his estranged wife, Lolicia, and daughter Victoria,

Priends of Jonathan Aitkeo. who is expected to return from abroad soon to face a Scotland Yard investigation into allegations of perjury, are suggesting a possible defeoce to explain why he lied over his secret trip to the Paris Ritz.

The former chief secretary to the Treasury and defence procurement minister had, they say, been publicly vilified while unable to answer the charges for complex personal and professiooal reasons.

involving secret government missions, the intelligence ser-There is strong indication, they say, that his ill-fated visit vices, a mistress and an unreliwas on sensitive government business. There could also have ter he had left the hotel, that it been a secondary mission he was a mistake to let the Saudwas undertaking on behalf of the Secret Intelligence Service, is pay his hill, the frieods say. M16, with whom he has had a cia to travel from Geneva to Paris where she was seeing

long standing relationship. Mr Aitken is said to have lied under oath during his libel action against The Guardian newspaper and Granada Television about his stay at the Ritz in Sep-

found out she had not, the tember 1993. His £1.000 bill for frieods suggest. At first, Mr Aitken thought he could hluff it out, but he realised he had been put in an impossible position, say his friends. To protect the reputation of his wife and details of his official work in Paris, he withdrew the

There was, it is said, another emharrassing reason for his wanting to keep the Paris Ritz visit secret. He had spent the night with another woman dur-

ing his stay. Although Mr Aitken has a did not want to add to the woes of a Tory government suffering a surfeit of sex scandals.

Mr Aitken's mother has claimed that her son had lied to

claimed that her son had lied to protect his wife.

His close friend and former constitueocy chairman in Thanet South, Major Johns Thomas, subscribes to the view that just because Mr Aitken "lied does oot mean he is guilty". Major Thomas has a letter from Mr Aitken's solicitor Richard Sykes saying the former minister had done what he that for eotirely "homourable" its sons.

Another friend, a Tory politi-cian, said: What we have seen is one man being demonised. The truth, when it comes out, may show that there are expla-nations for what happened. They may be embarrassing ex-planations, but these are cock-ups rather than conspiracies. Detectives investigating the

perjury allegations are in touch with Mr Aitken's lawyers. They say they are waiting to see what Mr Aitken has to say to them. He will be interviewed uoder caution.





Skipper goes on trial over tall ship

The owner and skipper of what was the world's oldest working square-rigged in May 1995, appeared before Mr Justice Butterfield at Exeter Crown Court. world's oldest working square-rigged sailing vessel yesterday went oo trial for the alleged manslaughter of three crew members lost when the vessel broke up on the north Cornwall coast.

Mark Litchfield, 56, who was among 11 survivors when the 137-year-old wooden tall ship Maria Asumpta was wrecked as she approached Padstow

The three lost crew were Anne Tay-lor, 50, of Wallingford, Oxfordshire; Emily MacFarlane, 19, of Felinstowe, Suffolk, and 24-year-old John Shannon from Queensland, Australia.

. The jury of six mee and six women heard that Mr Litchfield, of Boxley, Kent, had pleaded not guilty to the

manslaughter charges at an earlier hearing. Mr Justice Butterfield, who said the trial could last over six weeks, adjourned the hearing until today.

The charges allege that Mr Litchfield unlawfully killed Anne Taylor on
30 May 1995, and unlawfully killed

Emily MacFarlane and John Shannon between 19 May and 25 June 1995. In each case the charge alleged that

as master and owner of the vessel, Mr Litchfield owed a duty to take reasonable care of all those who sailed on her, including the three who died. In each case the charges also allege

that he was in breach of that duty and did not take reasonable care of the crew who died. It was claimed that he failed to plan, navigate and execute a safe passage for

Padstow, and in particular failed to sail the vessel at a safe distance from the

It was also alleged that he sailed the ship so close to the shore that he had to rely on using the engines to avoid grounding on Mouls Rock, knowing that the diesel fuel was contaminated and likely to cause the engines to fail.



Aitken: 'Honourable motives'

The truth, when it comes out, may show that there are explanations'



DAILY POEM

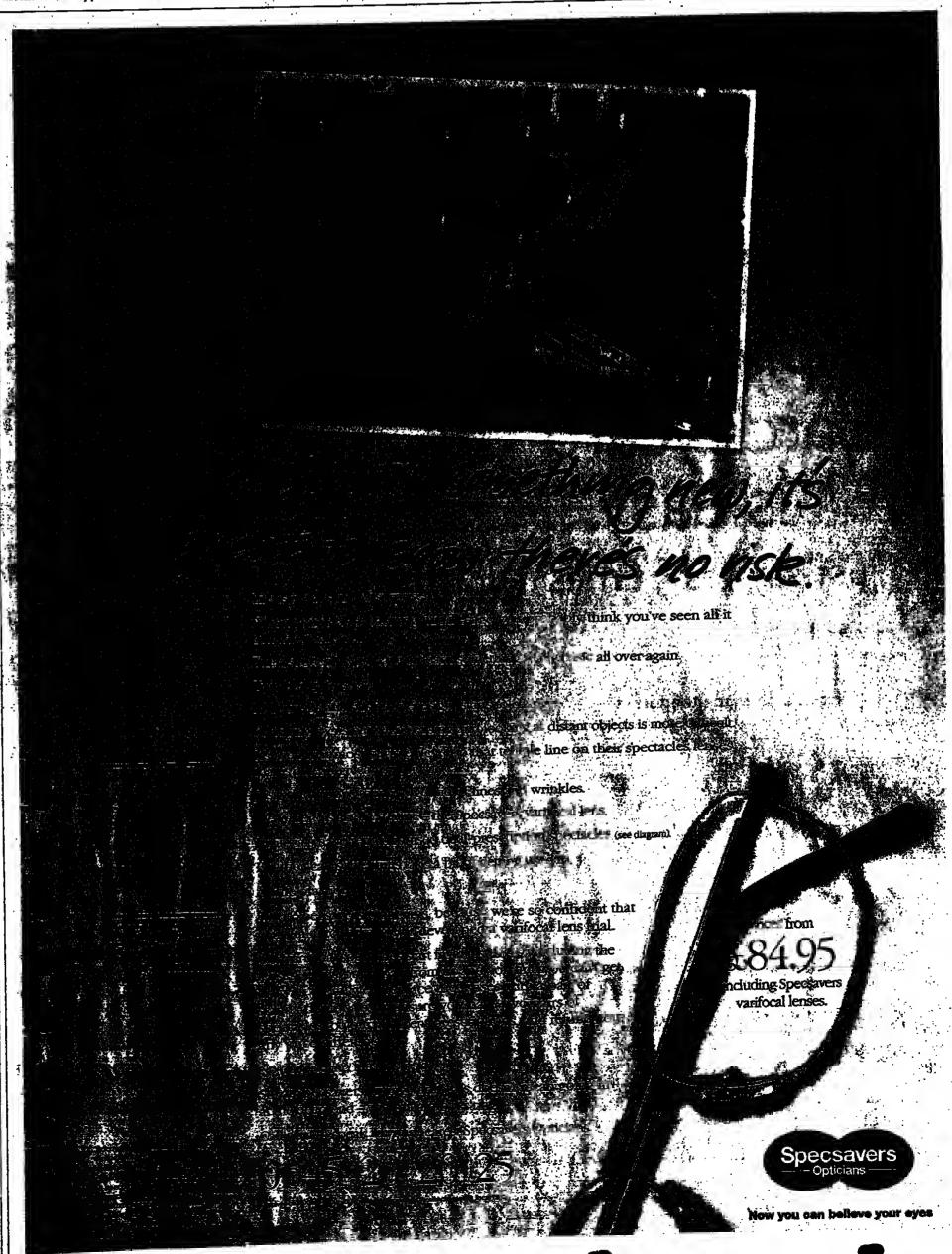
Song to 'Seeking Fragrant Plants': Account of a Dream in Xiao Temple

By Nara Singde (1655-1685)

How can I pass these nights far from home? I dreamed I was with her. reciting poems together, by the latticed window. And annoyed, she feigned a smile and said, "If you weren't so lonely there, would you still have wanted to come?"

I had to leave all too quickly; I had to teave an too query,
I had planned to stay
until temple bells were struck at dawn.
She suddenly pressed close to me—
then a spark flashed from lamp wick falling, and I was here facing fire in a globe of glass.

Nara Singde, author of today's poem from Stephen Owen's Anthology of Chinese Literature (Norton, £18.95), was a Manchurian officer at the (Norton, £18.95), was a Manchurian officer at the imperial Oing court. Like many poets of the era, imperial Oing court. Like many poets of the era, he employed tune patterns inherited from the earlier Song Dynasty, even though the music had long been lost. heen lost.



Jospin accused of reneging on Renault pledge

John Lichfield

The French Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, faces a rough ride from his own supporters in parliament today after failing to recerse a decision by Renault to close a large car factory in

The issue, although it concerns jobs ahroad, threatens to produce the first serious split in the leh-wing governing coalition. It is seen by Communist and radical Socialist members as a test of Mr Jospin's willingness, or ability, to soften the marketoriented policies of the previous

centre-right government, It is also the first clear example of Mr Jospin stumbling over his pledge to keep his pre-election promises. During the election campaign in May, he said he would force the partially state-owned car company to "re-open the dossier" of the closure of the Vilvorde plant. near Brussels, with the loss of

Earlier this month, Mr Jospin appointed an independent consultant to study the options. She reported hack last week that

there was no way to save the plant without juopardising Re-nault's wider strategy to improve its international competitive-

Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Belgian Prime Minister, accused Mr.Jospin of "giving false hope" to the Vilvorde workers to win votes in France. Even though the French state remains the largest single shareholder in the company. Mr Jospin says he cannot force Renault to change its mind, "That's all very well but Jospin ought to have known that when he was in opposition, "Mr Debaene said.

Mr Jospin will seek to explain himself to the Socialist group in parliament today and, possibly, to the nation in a television in-terview on Thursday. A continuing row threatens to destabilise the awkward balancing act he has attempted ter on 3 June. He insists he will honour his campaign pledges to adopt a more reflationary, and more jobs-oriented, policy than the centre-right government, He has, however, delayed most

vember and has pledged to stay

within shouting distance of the hudgetary guidelines for mem-hership of the European single

With anxiety growing on the left that Mr Jospin is already drifting towards pro-business and pro-market orthodoxy, the failure to intervene to save Vilvorde could could become a flashpoint within the Socialist, radical. Communist and Green coalition. Tempers will not be improved by the announcement vesterday that unemployment rose by 1.1 per cent. (32,000) in May, the sharpest monthly rise for four years. Although the increase cannot he hlamed on Mr Jospin. it will strengthen the voices of those calling on him to abandon hudget orthodoxy and pump up the economy with salary rises and increased public spending.

Mr Jospin's discomfort has been greeted with undisguised joy on the centre right. Philippe Seguin who will be elected later this month as the new leader of the neo-Gaullist RPR, said: Within the space of a month. Mr Jospin has forfeited the right to give lessons in morality to the entire world."



Jacques Cousteau's widow, Francine, left, their two children, Diane and Pierre-Yves, and the French President Jacques Chirac in front of Cousteau's coffin at Notre Dame in Paris. The film-maker and co-inventor of the aqualung will be laid to rest in the family vault at Saint André-de-Cubzac Photograph: AFF

Mectorate with retur

Videogate exposes rot at heart of Mexican politics

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Phil Davison

A week hefore vital elections, Mexican police are trying to uncover a "dirty tricks brigade" that distributed thousands of doctored videotapes portraying leading opposition can-didate Cuauhtemoc Cardenas as a Communist rabble-rouser.

The "videogate" scandal, blamed hy Mr Cardenas on the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). has raised the temperature in the run-up to historic 6 July elections which could see the PRI lose Mexthe first time in its 68-year history. The populist Mr Cardenas, 63, is tempt to slash Mr Cardenas's lead.

the capital - the second-most influential post in the country after President - as candidate for the Social Democratic Party of the Democra-tic Revolution (PRD), Mexicans will also elect a new 500-seat lower house of parliament, a quarter of the

Senate and six state governors.

Tens of thousands of videotapes, in which images of violence and revolution were juxtaposed with doctored speeches by Mr Cardenas, were distributed to businessmen over the past few weeks until police last week raided a Mexico City apartment where the videos were heing proico City and control of Congress for duced. The idea appeared to be to scare voters and investors in an at-

whether the tapes were linked to a political party. Mr Cardenas pointed the finger at the PRI, accusing them of launching a "dirty war" to avoid defeat, but the ruling party denied involvement. In the mayoral race, Mr Cardenas.

son of revered former Mexican president Lazaro Cardenas, is running abead of Carlos Castillo Peraza of the conservative National Action Party (PAN) and the PRI's Alfredo Del Mazo, a former energy minister. The PRI's control of the Senate is

not in danger hut it could lose at least one governorship, in the key indus-

trial state of Nuevo Leon, to the PAN. The PRI maintained control of all

forced on former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and his successor Ernesto Zedillo have since allowed the PAN to grab four state gover-norships. The left-of-centre opposi-

tion has never won a state. While a victory by Mr Cardenas in Mexico City would be historic, some analysts say the city vote is something of a sideshow. In recent years the party has gradually jettisoned segments of power hut conlinued to reign over Mexico's complex socio-political system through its patronising control over all sectors of society, from the po-

lice, military and judiciary to trade unions and peasant groups.

its control of "the system", analysts say, although it would seriously handcuff the President in such areas as pushing through the budget, long the prerogative of the ruling party.

To offset the fears of businessmen and investors, Mr Cardenas has played down his populist image and dropped his opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) with the US and Canada. He is expected to run for President of Mexico in 2000, when Mr Zedillo's

six-year term expires. Mr Cardenas's surge in popularity in the capital and the povertystricken south is seen partly as a protest vote against the PRI, partly as a backlash from his unsuccessful marked ballot slips to look like one.

but police are still investigating ation in 1929. But electoral reforms majority would not roh the PRI of run for the presidency in 1988. That year, Mr Cardenas was running ahead of PRI candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari when the PRI-con-trolled Electoral Council announced that the computer system counting the votes had crashed. When it came back up. Mr Salinas was ahead and won narrowly. Ballots were quickly burned before a recount

could be made. Mr Zedillo has since presided over electoral reforms, including a more independent Electoral Council, hut the opposition warn that PRI militants may resort to the traditional fraudulent tactics, particularly in



Another old PRI favourite was the use of the "dead man's vote" when electoral registers included the names of dead people who voted naturally - for the PRI. New photo credentials should make that

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Radical Web site wriggles out of German court net

Imre Karacs

A neo-Stalinist demagogue allied with a hunch of eco-sahoteurs struck a blow for freedom of expression yesterday, scuppering the German state's latest attempt to rein in the

In a landmark decision. a court in Berlin acquitted Angela Marquardt, who had been accused of disseminating forbidden Icitist propaganda. Ms Marquardt. 25. a former Deputy Chair of the Party of Democratic Socialism, had offended the authorities by proriding access through her own Weh site to the proscribed mag-azine Radikal.

The magazine, made available on the Internet, had published detailed advice on ways to block the path of trains carrying nuclear waste to the dis-posal site of Gorleben in northern Germany. It included tips on crippling signalling equipment and crecting particades on the tracks.

Arguing that the group, hased in the Netherlands, was endangering railway safety and the fabric of democracy, the German authorities banned Radikal. In June 1995, several hundred policemen launched simultaneous raids on left-wing activists, arresting 50 people.

File deleted: The Radikal magazine Web site, which led to

The magazine's office in Maastricht was also searched by Dutch and German policemen. and Internet service providers were pressured to block access to the inflammatory site, called

Their tough actions lit a beacon for a motley alliance of Berlin leftists sadly lacking a cause until then. In January 1996. Ms Marquardt put the Web address of the magazine on her home page, thus providing a gateway to the forbidden pro-

"I want to distance myself from the attacks outlined in Rudikal. But I do not accept that the discussion over this issue should he forbidden," she declared. Thus began the war on

the Net In August 1996, prosecutors instructed the Internet Task Force in Germany to block the site. A month later, Compuserve, the provider through which Ms Marquandt operated her page, closed her down. She responded by taking her site to an unregulated part of the Net.

made to block the site but all proved impossible. Every time one page was closed down, the anarchistminded denizens of the Weh opened 'mirrors' - further gateways to the magazine, Meanwhile, the authorities found themselves prosceuting a senior figure in a legal political

The state was left with no option but to charge her in Octo-

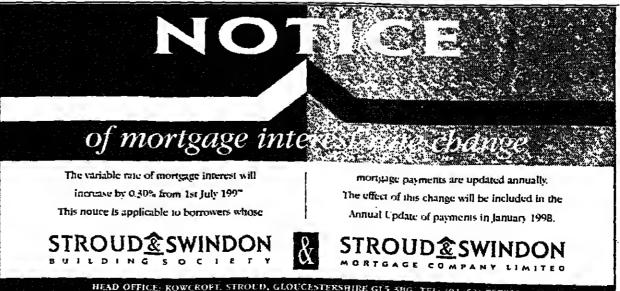
her last year with ahetting sedition. Meanwhile, under

pressure from the authorities,

several further attempts were

party which enjoys up to 20 pert cent support in eastern Ger-many and whose MPs sit in the Bundestag. Although the democratic motives of Ms Marquandt's party, which is funded by Communists and post-Communists of the former East Germany, are open to dehate, her prosecution smacks of heavy-hand-edness. Her own home was alleged to have been searched by the police and she would

have faced a heavy fine if she had been found guilty. The court reached Solomonic verdict, ruling that she might not have known what opened a link to it from her own Internet page. But yesterday you could still read the now worldfamous magazine Radikul via



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Socialists usher in New Albania

Albania's five turbulent years under President Sali Berisha were heading towards a swift and remarkably graceful conchision yesterday as the ruling Democratic Party suffered a crashing election defeat at the hands of its Socialist rivals and the President, surprising almost everyone, accepted the result without a murmur.

The day after a vote which was riddled with minor problems but relatively free of the gang violence that has rocked the country for the past four months, the Socialists were cruising towards a huge parliamentary majority.
The party said it had won 63

seats outright, plus 10 more through electoral pacts with other parties. Once full results were available and the part of the race calculated by proportional representations are selected. tional representation was calculated, the party expected to garner up to 50 more seats in the 155-seat assembly.

Around a dozen results were

still due in, two seats had to be contested again because of irregularities and 19 would be decided in a second round of voting oext Sunday, the Socialists said. Their figures credited the Democratic Party with only seven seats so far.

The Organisation for Secu-rity and Co-operation in Europe, which monitored the election, said these results matched their own findings. Sali Berisha, under international pressure, concedes with grace after poll approved by observers

courage and dignity and to con-

made before and during the

meot to elect the president, so Mr Berisha will probably stay in

office long enough to see the

After five years of scant re-

gard for democratic principles, in which all the problems were automatically blamed on a

"Stalinist-terrorist" opposition,

Mr Berisha - under intense international pressure - behaved

with aplomb, to the relief of

many opponents who expected him to denounce the elections as unfair. His only omission was

a failure to congratulate the

man expected to succeed him,

new assembly sworn in.

There were no official results for most of yesterday and the final tally is not expected until today.

Despite the enormous diffi-

culty of holding an election in a gun-ridden country on the verge of economic and social collapse, the OSCE described the vote as "adequate and acceptable".

tinue together ... our efforts, as an opposition, to consolidate democracy". He also vowed to respect the declarations he had Across the country, there were blasts of Kalashnikov fire through the night and all day yes-terday to mark the defeat of a president held responsible for election campaign - a line wide-ly interpreted as honouring a pledge to resign following his defeat. Under the Albanian constitution, it is up to parliathe devastating financial losses wreaked by the collapse of Al-bania's so-called pyramid in-vestment schemes. But violence was kept to a minimum with only a handful of incidents reported.

The Democratic Party was so taken aback by the scale of its defeat that oews bulletin after news bulletin on state television, which it controls, was simply cancelled. After a day of nonstop election coverage oo Sunday, evening viewing consisted of Albanian folk-singing interspersed with warnings from the interior ministry oot to hold street demonstrations

The official wall of silence continued yesterday morning, as two senior party officials were summoned to the US embassy for a meeting that embassy sources said was intended to impress oo them the oeed to abide by the will of the people.

the Socialist leader Fatos Nano.

Mr Nano called for an end to
the deep polarisation in Albanian politics that had helped create an atmosphere of fear and
violence, and welcomed the beincidence of fear are of peace. Finally, at 2pm, Mr Berisha himself appeared on television to admit defeat. Looking calm ginning of an age of peace, co-operation, co-habitation and co-existence" that would enand relaxed, he urged his sup-potters to "treat the verdict with able Albania to get back on the road to democracy.

He said he hoped Mr Berisha would resign as he had promised but noted that parliament had the powers to impeach him if necessary. There are structures to assist, if oot to force, Mr Berisha to be a man of his word," he said.

The challenges ahead are enormous—disarming the rebel bands so that roads, towns and villages can be made safe again; billding a barely developed economy that has been devastated by the collapse of the pyramid schemes; and encouraging a truly pluralistic culture in which the media is free and both government and opposition can

co-exist peacefully.

An Italian soldier was badly wounded in shooting in the Adriatic port of Vlora and was flown to Bari in Italy for treatshooting broke out in Vlora, following rumours that President Berisha had resigned.



Uplifting victory: Socialist party supporters celebrate at their headquarters in Tirana Photograph: Damir Sagoli/Reuters

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Electorate flirt with return of the Zog dynasty

Andrew Gumbel

Just for a momeot yesterday, it looked as though Albania was turning the clock back more than 60 years and doing what no European country has done since the fall of Franco – reviving its monarchy.

One of the more bizarre sideshows of Sunday's general elections was a referendum asking Albanians whether they were happy with their republican system or preferred to have a king again, just as in the bad old days of King Zog and his

rount of puffed-up puppers.

Nobody had given the referendum a second thought, dismissing it as ooc of President Sali Berisha's more eccentric political games, but vesterday morning supporters of Zog's son and heir, Leka Zogu, grabbed the post-electoral limelight and cried victory. "We've got 54 per cent." said one spokesman. "Actually, it's nearer 70," said

another. A chill wind was suddenly felt in Albanian political circles. How could an electorate that had just handed the Socialist Party an werwhelming parliamentary majority do such a thing? Did this mean the country would readopt its repressive, highly autocratic 1928 constitution, as

the monarchists were insisting? Constitutionalists scratched their heads and wondered whether the "yes" vote was absolute or depended on a vote in the new parliament. Scurrilous

political journalists noted that the referendum made no reference to Leka and wondered if any old mooarch would do. "Maybe we should ask Prince Charles," said ooe. "Or Chris Patten," said Ben Blushi, editor of the Albanian oewspaper In-dipendent. "After all, he's looking for a job."

By mid-afternoon, it became clear that the rumours were unfounded and the monarchy, al-though scoring far better than anyone expected, was in no danger of reasserting itself.

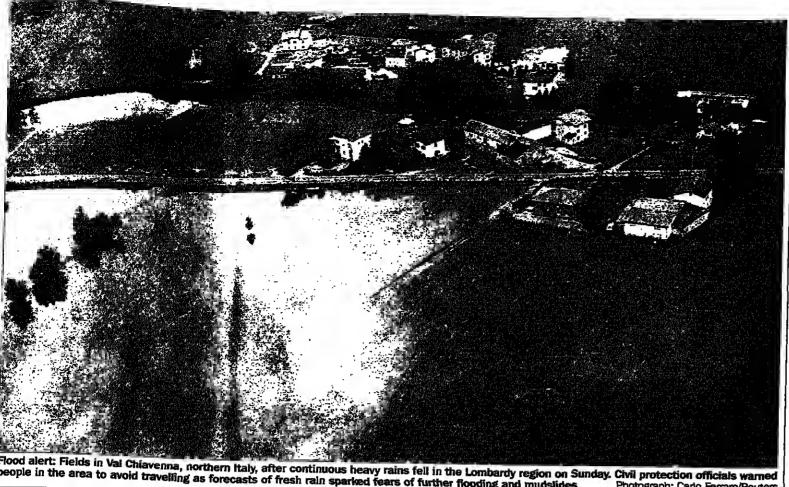
Leka, who was whisked out of Albania as a babe-in-arms when the Italians invaded in 1939, returned to the country for the first time earlier this year to launch his campaign. In Vlora, epicentre of the armed anti-government revolt, he survived just 20 minutes before fleeing the meo with guns. His life as a jaded aristocrat did not at first sight appear to qualify him to lead one of the world's craziest,

most impoverished countries.
His father, Ahmed Zogu,
was an ambitious politician from oorthern Albania who seized the presidency by force in the early 1920s and elevated himself to king in 1928. Zog bled the country dry and had a love-hate relationship with Fascist Italy that culminated in the an-

nexation of his country in 1939,
Zog and his family took
refuge in the Ritz hotel in Piocadilly, nicknamed "Zog's Circus", and was never invited back to his home country again.







ople in the area to avoid travelling as forecasts of fresh rain sparked fears of further flooding and

Bosnian Serb president held by own police

The mafia-style politics of the to overwhelm the Bosnian Serb President Biljana Plavsic lasi night, after she was arrested by her own police force on re-turning from a visit to Britain.

Mrs Playsic, who was was invited for talks in London by the Foreign Office on the strength of her new-found reputation as a moderate, cut short her British visit amid reports of opposition to her planned drive

ainst corruption. At Belgrade airport on Sun-day night, in spite of being titular head of an entirely independent state, she was

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abbed by the police of President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and held for an hourand-a-half. She was then transported to Bijeljina, in north-east Bosnia, where she was detained vernight by her own police in the village of Dvorovi. Yesterday the "President"

was set free and returned to the Bosnian Serb city of Banja Luka with an escort provided by S-For, the international peace-keeping force in Bosnia. They were reported to have secured the presidency huilding in Banja Luka against possible attack.

Mrs Playsic was one of a trio of Serb ultra-nationalists led by Radovan Karadzic who plunged Bosnia into a bloodbath from 1992-5 by trying to carve an eth-nically pure Serb state out of the mixed Muslim-Christian for-

crimes by the UN tribunal in the Hague, hut until recently was seen as the most hardline of the lot. President Milosevic's journalist wife Mirjana famously ac-

Her troubles proceed not from being "soft" on Muslims, but from her opposition to corruption which, as a rabid but sincere nationalist, she devoutly opposes. Mr Karadzic and his close ally, Momcilo Krajisnik, have had no scruples about draining the last drops out of the bankrupt Bosnian Serb state to

significant shorts

School rebel confesses

said yesterday. Police arrested the boy on Saturday after he confessed to killing Jun Hase, 11, and leaving his severed head at a school entrance gate of a junior high school.

Two months earlier, Ayaka Yamashita, 10, was hludgeoned to death in the same neighbourhood.

apparently with a steel pipe. Less than an hour later, a nine-year-old girl was stabbed and nearly hled to death.

Hase's severed head was discovered with his eyes gouged out and his mouth split from ear to ear. The

Yilmaz forms government

suspect told police he targeted the mentally retarded boy because the victim was weaker. AP - Tokyo

President Suleyman Demirel approved the formation of a new Turkish government headed by Mesut Yilmaz. Ten

new Turkish government headed by Mesut Yilmaz. Ten days of lobbying in Turkey's finely balanced parliament had convinced Mr Yilmaz - who leads the conservative-minded Motherland Party - that he has majority support for a coalition to unite most of Turkey's secular political parties. He is prime minister for the third time.

Mr Demirel asked him to form a government after the resignation of Necmettin Erbakan, the Islamist leader unseated under pressure from the army and True Path Party coalition partners. Christopher de Bellaigue - Ankara

Man cleared of asylum arson

A German state court found a Lehanese man innocent of

the deaths of 10 Africans in an arson fire last year at an

asylum shelter. The decision was issued more than three weeks after prosecutors admitted to the court that they had insufficient evidence to convict Safwan Aid for the fire on 18 January 1996 that killed 10 people and injured

UN blocked from massacre sites

President Laurent Kahila has blocked the UN's pain to alleged massacre sites in the jungles of former Zaire, but investigators said they would not pull out of the country immediately. A UN team in the capital, Kinshasa, said the government had rejected two non-negotiable terms for the investigation. The mission follows allegations that Mr Kabila's Tutsi-backed rebels or their Rwandan or Ugandan allies killed an unknown number of Rwandan Hutu

allies killed an unknown number of Rwandan Huiu refugees as they marched across Zaire before toppling President Mobutu Sese Seko in May. Reuter - Kinshar

Yeltsin leans on filial advice

President Boris Yeltsin named his younger daughter

yesterday as his official image adviser, boosting the power she gained while heading her father's re-election campaign. Tatyana Dyachenko, 37, first emerged as an important player during the re-election bid. AP – Moscow

Anthrax survives - 80 years on

discovered in a Norwegian museum was still deadly. 80

years after it was confiscated from a German officer, a

newspaper said. A small glass ampule found at the Norwegian Police Museum in Trondheim in April contained anthrax bacteria, the local newspaper Adressewisen reported. Bjorn P. Berdal of the Norwegian military microhiological laboratory in Oslo said the find confirms Germany had planned to use germ warfare during the First World War.

AP - Oslo

A germ warfare capsule from the First World War

President Laurent Kahila has blocked the UN's path to

The 14-year-old boy arrested in the beheading of a schoolboy has also confessed to killing one young girl and stabbing another in the western city of Kobe, news reports

to second killing

ic has made his cash through his monopoly on smuggled cigar-rettes. Mr Krajisnik and his brother have lined their pockets by sharing out monopolies on spirits and petrol. They are reported in the Belgrade media to have stashed their fortunes away in private banks in Russia. Mrs Playsic, who assumed the

Bosnian Serb leadership from Mr Karadzic after he was indicted by the UN war crimes tri-hunal decided to crack down on the private mafias after a meeting with Madeleine Albright during the US Secretary of State's recent tour of former Yugoslavia. She also told Ms Al-bright she had swung behind the "moderate" camp on the question of a single currency for Bosnia - a hig irritant to the mafia men, who have no desire to see the Bosnian Serbs' worthless currency replaced by something more stable.

Just prior to her return from London, she announced the sacking of the Bosnian Serb police chief, Dragan Kijac.

Her detention in a police cell in Bijeljina will raise a hitter smile from Bijeljina's surviving Muslims. Mrs Playsic first achieved real fame by publicly kissing the Serb paramilitary leader Zeljko Raznjatović "Arkan" after his forces had stormed the town in April 1992 and murdered many local leadnot indicted for suspected war ers of the Muslim community. ■ The Hague (AP) – UN war crimes prosecutors will give secret indictments to "authorities ready, willing and able to exe-cute them," Chief Prosecutor Louise Arbour said.

Ms Arbour was reacting to Friday's arrest by the UN of Slavko Dokmanovic, a Serb suspect in the massacre of 260 Croats in the eastern Croatian town of Vukovar in 1991. His arrest marked the first time UN authorities have held an indicted suspect in the former YuPatte wiper tear last F sound

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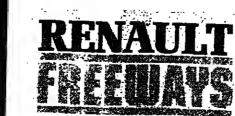
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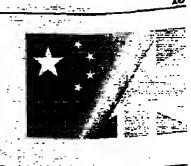
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Handover



'I have relinquished administration of this government'

Patten wipes a tear as Last Post sounds

Stephen Vines Hong Kong

Chris Patten, the 28th and last Governor of Hong Koog was swallowing hard as he emerged from Governmeot House for the last time yesterday afternoon. He might just have got through the modest cere-mony marking his departure without shedding a tear had it not been for the lowering of the flag and the mounful sounds of "The Last Post".

Earlier, he had sent a telegram to Loodon, marking the eod of his mission. "I have relinquished the administration of this government. God Save the Queen," it said. It was a wrenching day for the Governor, crowned oot by his final departure on Britannia, but at a farewell parade io pouring rain which turned into a torreot the moment the band struck up "God Save the Queen".

Leaving is something the Brits do terribly well, so well that they have even trained their colonial subjects to produce a perfect replica of a British ceremonial occasion. That is way the Chinese bandsman of the Royal Hoog Kong Police bands were first out oo the parade ground in their kilts, clutching hagpipes and other instruments which were later seen in the rather larger hands the ceremony could only have oc-curred in Hoog Kong where, as the or as he put it, "because of events chided Captain Charles Elliot for casing in their chorus wheo he sig-

glib commentary stated, "East meets

Britain supplied both most of the hardware for the ceremony and the rain, without which any British ceremonial occasion would not be complete. China supplied a gleaming oew office tower block which overshadowed the parade ground, demonstraing the new master's commitment to the territory in terms of hard cash. As for Hong Kong itself, it supplied what it supplies best – people.

"They were only ordinary," said Mr Patten in his farewell address, "in the sense that most of them came here with nothing. They are extraordinary in what they have achieved against the odds." Some 10,000 people turned out for the ceremony, the Chinese just about outnumbering the British residents. Most of them were dressed in their Sunday best to pay their respects to the departing sovereign power.

The baggage of history was left discreetly out of sight, for the most part. Mr Patten referred obliquely to the opium wars which gave birth to the colony. "This chapter hegan with events that, from today's vantage point, at the end of the following cen-tury, nooe of us here would wish or seek to condone," he said. Rather less obliquely he reminded his auof three groups of British bandsmeo. dieoce that most of Hoog Kong's



in our own century which would to-day have few defenders". Mr Patteo had promised that Britain would be withdrawing with-

out self-coogratulation, but with dignity and solemnity. Yet he could not resist raising at least two-and-a-half cheers for British colonialism. He said Britain had provided "the scaffolding"- the rule of law, clean government, the values of a free society aod, "the beginnings of representative government democratic accountability

'No dependent territory has been left more prosperous, none with such a texture and fabric of civil society," he said.

seizing this "barren rock with hardly a house upon it". Chris Patreo has arguably been its most controversial governor, just slightly more controversial than Sir John Pope-Hennessy, who made an attempt to give Hong Kongers more rights. He left the colony in 1882 with his fellow Britons ostentatiously turning their backs on him, while members of the

Chinese community saw him off singing his praises. Mr Parten must be one of the few colonial governors to depart with higher opinion poll ratings than his local successor. His tear ducts were again severely tested last night as the audieoce at the farewell ceremooy stamped on the metal stands sur-

naled that the show should go on. The final act of British rule was appropriately played out in the pristine spleodour of Hoog Kong's oewly constructed Convention Centre extension, a striking edifice which has shot up on a piece of reclaimed land, jutting into Victoria Harbour.

China, which stayed away from the last hurrah on the parade ground, had to send its leaders to this occasion. Yet Chinese leaders declined an invitation to share the last sup-per with their British hosts. They arrived after the coffee had been served to spend a little over half an hour with the British party for a functional handover ceremony.

manded that Britain sign a document formally ending its rule over Hong Kong. British negotiators said that they had signed such a document back in 1984 and could see no point in signing anything else.

However, China wanted a visible symbol of the end to the humiliation of more than a century and a half of foreign occupation. Its leaders wanted Britain to put its mark on something, rather like the Treaty of Nanking which first granted the island of Hoog Kong to the British

mpire in perpetuity.

In the end both sides settled for the most minimal ceremony that could be mutually agreed. The

Diary

get you". China's President Jiang Zemin promised a new era of prosperity. The small honour guard from both sides stamped through their paces in the confined space. A specially designed-wind machine put life into the Union and Hong Kong flags, which were lowered for the last time; and the five-star Chinese flag, which finally took its place on the newly-restored Chinese soil, and the new Special Administrative Region

of Hong Kong flag. The final ceremony was too hur-ried and rigid to produce much emotion. As the clapping melted away the British party burried from the hall, their presence now redun-

Leading article, page 19 Andrew Marr, page 21

What the handover will mean

Remind me, why exactly has Britain handed Hong Koog

Because Britain had a 99-year lease oo the New Territories, which comprise some 90 per cent of Hong Kong's territory. The rest of the territory was granted by China to Britain io perpetuity, but Hong Kong could not really function with just 10 per cent of its land mass. The New Territories lease expired vesterday. So, will Hong Kong just be aoother part of China?

The post-colonial Hong Kong is called a Special Administrative Region of China. and will have a high degree of autonomy from Peking for a period of 50 years during which the territory will be allowed to cootinue with its distinctive laissee

That sounds very much like the party line.
That's because it is the par-

What's the truth then? Hard to say, but it already many guarantees of rights which looks as though the promised are more honoured in the

Stephen Vines examines the small print of a treaty ending 160 years of British imperial rule

be realised. There are already signs that the Chinese leadership is actively intervening in the running of Hong Kong.

China has insisted that new laws be enacted against secession and subversion. Chioese leaders have also indicated that certain types of criticism, such as personal attacks on the Communist Party leadership, will not

But surely the Basic Law, Hong Kong's new mini-constitution, guarantees all the existing freedoms and rights?

Yes, up to a point, that's true. The Basic Law protects press freedom, the right of assembly and freedom of speech, but it may be argued that the rather dusty document called the Chinese Constitution also contains many guarantees of rights which

high degree of autonomy won't breach than in the observance. Are you saying then that as from today Hong Kong can kiss goodbye to the high degree

of liberty it has enjoyed in the

It is very hard to be quite as categorical as that. Tung Chee-hwa. Hong Kong's new head of government, promises to be a protector of the territory's libcrties, and has even said he would resign if he saw them being undermined. At the same time, he has been an active proponent of all the measures which the Chinese government wants introduced to curb civil

Surely all this is only the concern of a handful of political activists? Not really. The fate of civil liberties goes to the heart of questions related to the rule of law. If the current legal frame-

date a more oppressive civil rights regime, it will send a clear signal that the rest of the legal framework is in question. But we've been told that the legal system will remain

True, and the new order has made a good start by appoint-ing a well-respected lawyer, Andrew Li, as the Chief Justice. But at the same time, Mr Tung and Elise Leung, the oew Sec-retary for Justice, have been blithely talking about oew laws having retrospective effect and seem happy to see new legisla-tion enacted which gives wide, unspecified powers to the authorities to act against political

What about elected forms of government? As of today, all elected ders are being scrapped and re-

kicked out and replaced by a China-appointed body, and at local level, the former elected councillors have been allowed to retain their seats but are being supplemented by appoint-ed councillors, almost all of whom are supporters of the oew administration. Surely this is no more than a temporary measure, to be

followed by elections? Elections have indeed been promised within a year. The questioo is whether, as Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary put it, "they will be free and fair". Some of the rumoured plans for a new election system have the

smell of election rigging. Some things won't change will

Actually many things won't change, or will only do so very gradually. The currency, for example, will remain the same, English remains as an official language and Hong Kong will retain its own border cootrols, specifically meaning that peo-ple from the mainland will need

Patten's last days – The Director's Cut

Governor Chris Patten was famous, during his gover-norship, for arguing the democrats' cause. All of which did oot, of course, endear him to Peking. It was therefore perhaps not entirely surprising that Chinese television wished to present its own view of the departure from Government House of Mr Patten yesterday, the man who they had so roundly and frequently

For most of the departure ceremony, Chinese mainland television used the live pictures which were being broadcast by Hong Kong televisioo. But the mainlanders also installed their own camera in the Botanic Gardens above Government House, which they regularly cut away to. The camera did not have a view on to the ceremony itself, so the cutaways were somewhat baffling - at least until observers noticed a pattern.

Bringing down the Unioo Jack for the last time was, naturally, shown in glorious technicolour. But whenever Mr Patteo stopped to have a friendly conversation with a Chinese person, Peking mysteriously became more interested in the anodyne view of the gates of Government House. Could it be that Peking is unwilling to let anybody think that Mr Patten has a warm relationship with Hong Kong Chinese? Of course not. Unthinkable.

All the clutter of colonial rule has been shipped out or is finding its way into the

bric-à-brac shops and bin-bags. But one relic at least has found a dignified new Hong Kong borne. The huge, goldencrusted coat of arms that hung in the ballroom of Government House became the subject of much discussion: where to take it? What to do

with it? The coat of arms had been smuggled down to Hong Kong from the embassy in Peking during the jittery days of the Cultural Revolution, when British diplomats feared that the building might he sacked by Red Guards. In the countdown to D-Day, there was talk of returning it to London. But it is oow to be moved to the grand new consulate designed by Terry Farrell, architect of MI6's new headquarters on the Thames.

At least one Briton is not in danger of being sidelined by the new changes. What former prime minister Ed-ward Heath would no doubt call pragmatism and visioo has ensured him a place in the official Chinese history books. Chinese state television has made available approved library material on Hong Kong, for broadcasters to use. Titles include: Mao Tse Ting and Hong Kong; Deng Xiaoping and Hong Kong; Chimese pres-ideot Jiang Zemin and Hong Kong; Li Peng [prime minister and man responsible for Tiaoaomen] and Hong Kong. Oh yes, and... Edward Heath and Peking. Nice to be up there

with all the greats. Maybe it's

called flying the flag.

At least mainland China does not scorn all things English. The South China Morning Post reports that China is oow in the grip of a Jane Austen craze: - "Jane Austeo has become the oew opiate of the masses".

Jasper Becker, the paper's Peking correspondent, quotes a Chinese translator on the cnormous excitement generated by the BBC production of Pride and Prejudice: "Every-one's watching it, turn oo your TV and it's there ... It is about the problem of self-delusion, and that is something the Chinese don't like to own up to." sponse to Mr Darcy and his clinging wet riding breeches; a Chinese equivalent of Bridget Jones has yet to bid for an interview with Colin Firth.

All sorts of little hiccups along the way to the final act. The swearing-in of Hong Kong's unelected new legislature took place in the early hours this morning. The judges who conducted the swearing-io needed to do some homework before the big day. Their knowledge of Mandarin Chinese - as spoken in Peking, but oot in Cantonese-speaking Hong Kong - was not up to scratch. So they had to be sent off to have intensive rehearsals in putonghua, the commoo language. Other Hong Kongers hope that the mutual understanding between the judges and Peking will not be too close.

Steve Crawshaw

placed by new bodies. The old elected legislature has been work is changed to accommo-Cheers and tears in Gerard Street

Jojo Moyes London

As the Chinese flag was raised, bringing a loud cheer from the crowd assembled in the centre of London's Chinatown Sandie Chan burst into tears - but not

tears of sorrow. "Excuse me" she said, as her friend passed her handkerchief. "I think if I'd been in Hong Kong I would just be celebrating but this morning I went to the British Museum and I was looking at what they took from the Tang Ming Dynasty and I know it was taken in war, but...

Sandie Chan, like many of the 300-strong crowd assembled at the bank of television screens showing the handover ceremony on the corner of Gerrard

In London's Chinatown emotions were high, but there was a good deal more joy than foreboding

presence of so many "gweilos" (white ghosts) she was more critical of Britain's colunial past than fearful of a future under Cbioa. Her emotions were heightened by having been subjected to what she saw as rude.

invasive questioning when she arrived in Britain on hollday. "This immigration official think I was trying to flee bere

because of the handover?" Zoe Chan, 23, waiting for her parents, was already looking forward to travelling to the mainland. Currently in Britain Street, was glad to see China to study science she said that ness for the passing of empire. are Chinese, Hong Kong Chi-

Kong. While sensitive to the home, she would be looking for cultural crowd wept as the a job io China: "My father wurks in Guangdong. There will soon be a lot of opportu-

nities for people like me."

Ms Chan, whose Hong Kong-based pareots were visiting Britain for the handover, said those, like her family, who had had husiness dealings in China, believed there was little was so rude," she said. "Did she to fear: "A lot of this is just down to the fear of the unknown."

Whether it was the Hong Kongers' customary bullish-ness, or genuine coofidence, it was left to some of the Brits in the crowd to shed tears of sadresume sovereignty over Hong although Hong Kong was her At least two men in the multi-

screens showed the British flag being lowered. "I used to live there. I think

its terribly sad and I worry for my friends," said one man, who declined to be named. But for the Hoog Kong Chinese already dispersing back towards their stalls and restau-

rants 10 minutes after the exchange of sovereignty, it was already time to look forward. "It is good!" said student Leung Lap-Chi who had travelled down from Leicester, where he was studying. "It is important to be here. After all we

Commons Speaker Betty Boothroyd sent a personal message of support to the people of Hong Kong only half an hour before the colony was handed back to China. Ms Boothroyd paid tribute to the work of the Hong Kong Legislative Coun-cil, which will be replaced by an un-elected body when the handover is complete.

"Let me say that from this democratic institution, which is often known as the Mother of Parliaments, our thoughts go to Hong Kong and our best wishes for the future," she told the Commons in an unusual departure from the business of the

Ms Boothroyd said: "It is a very exceptional day for this country and for Hong Kong and I appreciate the fact that you have raised it with me."

Hong Kong handover

China's new top brass sweep in like emperors

Teresa Poole Hong Kong

No Chinese emperor ever bothered to set foot in Hong Kong in the era before the "barren island" was taken by the British. But yesterday, China's leaders triumphantly swept in 10 reclaim the territory with all the confi-dence of a sovereign power that had never been away.

As the newly-raised Chinese flag fluttered in an artificial breeze above him, President Jiang Zemin declared: "The return of Hong Kong to the motherland, after going through a century of vicissitudes, indicates that from now on the Hong Kong people have become true masters of this Chinese land.

There were no thanks or even soft words to the British. "Hong Kong's prosperity today in the final analysis has been cosmopolitan audience. Hong built by Hong Kong compatriors. It is also inseparable from the development and support of the mainland," said Mr Jiang.

There could be no better contrast of the two systems between which Hong Kong finds itself tives on the dais. From the moment the Chinese President and his delegation entered the hall their demeanour was stiff. Even when China's national flag was raised and the March of the Volunteers hoomed through the hall they betrayed no sign of emotion. The Chinese

There were no words of thanks or even soft words to the British for their stewardship

not going to let on that they were enjoying every victorious minute of it. Only the Prime Minister, Li Peng, seemed to allow himself one brief smile. Mr Jiang, who in Fehruary

had sohbed theatrically at the memorial service for Deng Xiaoping, yesterday looked no more sentimentally engaged than he does at a National People's Congress plenary session. Nor had he amended his Kong's return "is both a festival for the Chinese nation and a victory for the universal cause of peace and justice", he said. The day "will go down in the annals of history as a day which merits eternal memory

passing than the sight of the two country's senior representa-tives on the dair Farm the action on foreign soil, will now silently be judging from direct experience what they make of their new leader. Mr Jiang again pledged that the new Special Administrative Region would keep its social and economic system. But Hong Kong will keep its laws only "basicalside had never wanted a public ly unchanged", residents will enhandover ceremony, and were joy "various rights and

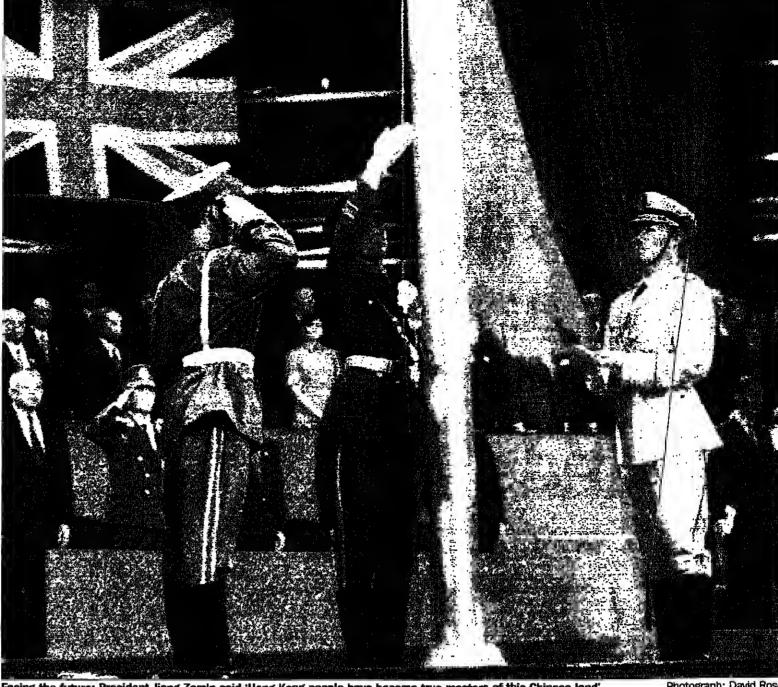
freedoms - according to law", and it will only be allowed to develop a democratic system "that suits Hong Kong's reality", he

It took just a few hours to put the stamp of mainland sover-eignty indelibly on Hong Kong. By the early hours of this morning a new chief executive, handpicked by Peking, had been sworn in, and Hong Kong's elected legislature replaced with one appointed by the mainland. Thus did the so-called "through train", the aim that the legisla-ture could straddle the historic handover, come to a grinding halt in the Hong Kong Con-vention and Exhibition Centre.

The new Provisional Legislature was due to hold its first meeting at about 3am, passing the Reunification Bill, which introduces new public order, assembly and association restrictions and which replaces all elected tiers of government. The manner of Mr Jiang's

earlier arrival in Hong Kong illustrated the clash of political cultures which lies ahead. Against a hackdrop of pouring rain, the President's Air China airplane landed just after 5pm at Hong Kong's airport. It would have been only a short drive from the luxury new villa in Shenzhen, the mainland special economic zone bordering Hong Kong, where Mr Jiang had spent the previous night. But that might have risked the possibility of encountering

demonstrations along the way. After being greeted at the air- soil before midnight was spent port. Mr Jiang was whisked off closeted in this hotel.



Facing the future: President Jiang Zemin said 'Hong Kong people have become true masters of this Chinese land'

Hong Kong when he joined morning celebrations before

lo the Harbour Plaza hotel, owned by one of the mainland's very wealthy Hong Kong friends, Li Ka-shing. It was there China's top leaders chose lo dine rather than at the 4,000strong lavish banquet laid oo by the British. Almost his entire seven hours on Hong Kong

The Hong Kong handover ceremony was aimed as much to people inside China as to the world. Mr Jiang, who this au-tumn will be re-elected (unopposed) as head of the Chinese Communist Party and army chief, could not have asked for a better party political broadcast to be beamed at political rivals back at home. The President

knows his performance last night as China's leader should make him unassailable for the time being in the post-Deng era. In the final ceremony, Mr Jiang stood flanked by some of those on whom his political future depends, As well as Mr

the former paramount leader's daughters. Deng Lin. Deng, who died in Fehruary aged 92, Li the top learn included the vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission. Zhang

was the architect of the "one country, Two Systems" policy.

This morning. Mr Jiang will have got his first real sight of been quite so scared of hanging

Kong people that they need to ac-

Hong Kong people have nev-

er been given the chance to be "citizens" in the true sense of the

word. Under British rule, we

could not really participate ful-ly in collective decision-making.

China first started to negotiate

Hong Kong's future, the two sovereign powers both pro-fessed to act in our best inter-

est, but in reality, they treated

our future as a commodity.

something to be bartered, bar-gained over, managed and ex-

ploited. No wonder Hong Kong

It would be tragic if in gain-

ing a country we were not gain-ing that voice in determining our

own affairs. We want to have an

expanded rather than limited

say in charting our own future.

Hong Kong people, like many Asians, are afraid of pol-

ities because our history shows

that politics has been a nasty

husiness. Good people, like

people feel disempowered!

Since 1982, when Britain and

tively participate in politics.

greater say in

Wannian, Included in the 90-

strong official Chinese delega-

tion was the widow of Deng Xiaoping, Zhuo Lin, and one of

departing for Peking. Mr Li i not so adventurous, fully aware that he is a target for prodemocracy activists. He will depart at breakfast time for the more predictable celebrations in the Chinese capital. Never Citizens want

Protesters defy police to light flame of democracy

Angelica Cheung Hong Kong and Agencies

The leader of Hong Kong's Democratic Party, Martin Lee, served notice to China yesterday that he would light on for democracy,
"We pledge to continue to be

the voice of Hong Kong people - in or out of office - and to fight to get democracy back." Mr Lee told a crowd of thousands.

Within an hour of the midnight handover. Hong Kong's democrats put on a boisterous demonstration at the Legislative Conneil (Legeo) huilding in the city centre, calling for freedom and democracy.

Despite earlier objections from the China-backed provi-sional legislature, a crowd gathered outside the Legeo building, waiting for Mr Lee to give a "1 July declaration" on the balcony.

It was unclear until the last minute whether the police would allow Mr Lee to get on to the balcony, but he was very determined. He made it clear during a speech a few hours ear-lier that he had a 30ft ladder which he would use to climb "like Romeo" on to the balcony if the police tried to stop him.

litical group in the former British colony. They won the largest number of seats in the Legeo elections in 1995, when Hong Kong people had a first

edge the elections, insisting that the political reforms introduced by the last governor. Chris Patten, were against the Sino-British agreement and the Basic Law of 1984, which laid the groundwork for Hong Kong's post-handover constitution.

Tung Chee-hwa, who hacks the provisional body, has said that elections in the newly-named Special Administrative Region are planned to be held next May. The Democrats say they will stand for the elections, but they also fear that the rules may be

changed to their disadvantage. Mr Lee was expected to con-demn China's curb on civil liberties and its decision to replace the elected law-making hody with a Peking-appointed one, which was due to be sworn in early this morning. The de-Mr Lee, a harrister, is the biggest and most popular po-

taste of democracy. Peking refused to acknowl-

Last year, an interim body,

comprising mainly pro-Peking figures from which the Democrats were excluded, was set up to take over after the handover. The new chief executive.



Political opposition: Anti-Peking protesters trying to press through police to march on the handover Photograph: AFP

democracy under Chinese rule, and for Western countries to monitor China's implementation of "one country, two systems". It urged the incoming government to hold elections as soon as possible.

Earlier yesterday evening, there was a whole series of predeclaration activities in central Hong Kong, starting with speeches by political figures expressing their concern for democratic development in Hong Kong. There were also recitations, plays and concerts. while another democratic

was: "Support the handover, defend democracy.

Veteran Democratic leader Szeto Wah, called Uncle Wah by the audience, delivered a "handover speech" expressing the party's support for Chinese sovereignty and calling on Hong Kong people to meet historical challenges. He also expressed the belief that, with the support of the people, the party will make a comeback next year and cre-ate a democratic Hong Kong. Soon after midnight a "flame

of democracy" was lit by the Democrats, accompanied by paing banners, marched through the streets, unaffected by the rain, heat and thunder.

Despite the countless celehration activities going on in all corners of the city, Democrats were yesterday hopeful that many local Chinese would come to last night's demonstrations. One spokesman said that if only 50 people joined the demonstration the authorities

would arrest them. If there were 5,000 demonstrators, he said, the authorities would stare at them. If the number got to 50,000, "then the authorities will clear the road for you.

tivities are predictable. As a Chinese, I support the handover. But I think Hong Kong people should support the Democrats, because, now that the British are gone, the Democrats will be the only people who can defend our freedom. If the Democratic Party cannot survive. Hong

Kong's future will not be promising." Most of the ousted legislators from Legeo plan to run in the elections promised for next year. Some of us will leave this council in order to get back in in a way we want," said Christine Loh, who recently founded the Citi-Businessman Alan Chan zens Party, which like the De-

Sun Yat-sen, the father of mod-ern China, died disillusioned. Mao Tse-tung's selfish excesses prevented China from real progress for three decades.

Many people are also put off
by politics. They are unhappy with the worst side of the business when politicians from different parties spend more time exchanging insults with each other than in finding solutions

to real problems. We must get out of this way of thinking otherwise we will never believe participation and representation This has been interpreted by many are important in public life. We run the danger of continuing to leave important decisions to very different from our own. I am told constantly that my

wish to hring nobility back to polities is naive. I am told that when power is involved, then there will



Changing lives: In an occasional series, Christine Loh, a leading Hong Kong democrat, reflects on the handover

always be too much vested in terest to act from principle. I think this view is too cyni-

cal. I see public decision-mak-ing as all other decision-making. Choices must be made all the time. We can all make better choices. To compromise is not necessarily to veer from principle unless decisions are made contrary to the public interest. A compromise should he a win-win decision after all.

Anyway the majority of Hong Kong folk enjoyed the five days of handover holidays because they could have a loogish break first and foremost. For an event hilled internationally as the most significant one of the year, Hong Kong people were rather blase. The official change of sover-

eignty ceremonies were solemn. Those whose jobs were to "celchrate" worked hard, but ordi-nary people remained indifferent . I see this as the strength of Hong Kong people. We doo't jubilate just because we are supposed to or told to. We don't act excited when we are not. We accept that Hong Kong is now a part of China but we are not prepared to act as if we have no anxieties.

Hong Kong's calm guidbye to Britain and cautious welcome to China is entirely appropriate in view of the fact that we had others whose interests might be no voice in determining the chain of events leading to the handover, and our elected representatives are being ejected. Christine Loh is chair of the newly-formed Cuizen's Party.

Freedoms guaranteed, but for how long? previous capitalist system and way of ever. because of Chris Patten's decilife shall remain unchanged for 50 ever. because of Chris Patten's decilife shall remain unchanged for 50 ever. because of Chris Patten's decilife designed to prohibit foreign political organisations or bodies from con-

Sam Coates

The Basic Law, Hong Kong's mini-constitution, guarantees that the territory will continue to be governed in much the same way under Chinese rule as it was during the British administration. It outlines the basis for Deng Xiaopting's "One Country - Two Systems principle and enshrines in law people's freedoms. However, it also makes provision for the incoming Hong Kong government to override many of those guarantees if there is any threat of "subversion",

The ability of the Hong Kong government and judiciary to make deci-

sions independently of China is set out in article 2 of the Basic Law. This states that Hong Kong will have "a high degree of autonomy and enjoy executive. legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudieation, in accordance with the provisions of this law". This is supplemented by article 3, which ensures that the government will only be made up of Hong Kong people, not by officials

drafted in from the mainland. The "One Country, Two Systems" principle is oudined in article 5: "The socialist system and policies shall not he practised in the Hong Kong SAR [special administrative region], and the

Article 27 guarantees freedom of speech and a free press in Hong Kong. However, there has been increasing self-censorship in the local media. This article also says that people will have "freedom of association. of assembly, of procession and of demonstration - though subsequently the provisional legislature has rein-troduced the old colonial laws which mean that protesters have to seek prior permission from the police.

Article 68 guarantees that the Legislative Council will be elected. How-

sion to widen the franchise for the Leg-islative Council election in 1995, China has decided to scrap the existing Legco. The eventual aim, according to the Basic Law, is "the election of all members of the Legislative Council by

universal suffrage". Despite all these promises, article 23 gives the SAR government the opportunity to enact laws which could overturn many of the freedoms outlined in the other parts of the Basic Law. It comes into force if there is a threat of "an act of treason, secession, sedition [or] suhversion" against Chi-na. or "theft of state secrets". It is also government.

ducting political activities in the region. and to prohibit political organisations or bodies of the region from establishing ties with foreign political or-ganisations or bodies".

as giving the new administration wide-ranging powers to deal with its Cynics will inevitably draw com-

parisons with the constitution of the People's Republic, which is also littered with pledges and rights that have been disregarded by the

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100.000 sather in Manannen Square poelebrate return

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Some 1,200 miles to the north of the formalities taking place in Hong Kong, an invitation-only crowd of more than 100,000 gathered in Tianannen Square in Peking. They counted down the seconds to mid-night, and then issued an enormous cheer to welcome the return of the territory to Chinese sovereignty.

The moment capped days of excited anticipation in the Chinese capital. Its major streets decorated with fairy lights, coloured flags and red Chinese lanterns, Peking has enjoyed an unusual carnival-like atmosphere.

Residents and visitors alike have thromsed to Tiananmen Square in recent days, brandishing both the oational flag of China and the new flag of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

This is an extraordinary day for all Chinese people, no matter where they live. This is a day to remember forever," said Liu Jinghai, who travelled from Shanghai together with his wife, daughter and pareots to be in Peking for the festivities.

Mr Liu and his family spent yesterday afternoon strolling the square and then joined a long queue of people waiting to snap their photographs in front of a huge digital clock that for months has been counting down the days and seconds to the Hong

Kong handover, We just want a picture of ourselves in front of the clock as it shows only one day remaining," his 12-yearold daughter said.

While ordinary citizens have been granted a two-day holiday to mark the turnover, thousands of Chinese police and paramilitary police have been working overtime.

Their task has been a delicate one. Although the Chinese authorities



concerned about the potential for any spontaneous outpouring to turn disorderly or, worse, into an occasion for the expression of other, unsanc-

tioned political views. Tiananmeo Square remained open to all of Peking's 11 million res-

patriotic response, they are also noon, but attendance at the all-night party was limited to a carefully choseo élite of 100,000.

Those in Hong Kong who fret about the presence of Chinese troops in their midst might take some cheer from the behaviour of the Peking police who yesterday cleared tens of

square to prepare for the evening's celebration.

Passably civil if not quite polite, uniformed police shepherded crowds away from the vicinity of the massive square and urged people to go home and watch the festivities on their

They were armed with nothing

more than hullhorns, hat visible in the back streets around the square and oo the grounds of the nearby Museum of Revolutionary History there were additional police, pre-

pared to provide extra support. Many members of the crowd sought to linger, or to wander back toward the square, but they all good

naturedly heeded the warnings to continue moving away.

"I am sorry I can't attend tonight's party, but I am very happy to be able to come here today," said a mid-tanking official in the Chinese Ministry of Justice, who declined to give his

"I lived for five years in Japan and Hong Kong.

Set piece: Dancers adding a swirl of colour to a background of rain for the farewell ceremony in Hong Kong yesterday. The formal celebrations were accompa by parties and dinners that used the occasion as an excu for extravagance

Photograph: David Rose

I could have remained there, but I wanted to come back. This is a great time to be in China. Our country is growing strong and Hong Kong's return is the greatest proof of that," he said.

Elsewhere in Peking, excitement likewise verged on disorder. A branch post office on South Dong Si Avenne was besieged by an unruly crowd hoping to get part of an advance allutment of special commemorative stamps being issued to mark the return of Hong Kong to

At least one thousand people queued around the block, with the two hundred of them nearest the

front pushing forcefully to get in.

"I have been waiting here for two hours, and I am planning to huy the special edition gold-foil stamp. I think it will go up in value, but I mainly want it as a souvenir," said one punter who declined to give his

For all their excitement, some in Peking said yesterday that they were growing weary of the lengthy huild up to the turnover, and of the centrally choreographed celebrations.

"The return of Hong Kong is of course a very nice thing for China, but I wish the government would spend less money on lights and banners and decorations. They should be spending that money to build decent housing for ordinary people," one Peking driver said.

■ Reuters — A choir of 10,000 singers lined the banks of Shanghai's Huangpu river and sang the revolutionary hymn "Without the Communist Party there would be no New China" and a new pop song "1997". In the boomtown of Shenzhen, lion dancers, children beating drums and flag-waving residents cheered as the first 509 active troops of the People's Liberation Army entered

idents until late oo Monday after-No time wasted as forces arrive b land, sea and air

Stephen Vines

China wasted no time asserting its newly-regained sovereignty over Hong Kong. Within six hours of the handover, 4,000 troops of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) were due to arrive at dawn by land, sea and air.

A small contingent of 509 soldiers drove into the territory three hours before the handover to be ready, in the words of a decree from President Jiang Zemin, to take over the defence of China's newest region. The bulk of the troops were due to enter by three land crossings. Navel forces were due to arrive in III ships, with six helicopters comprising the air arrival. Most contriversially. China was due to send in 21 armoured cars similat to those deployed in the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre.

Although this caused some droquiet in Hong Kong, villagers in areas close to the border festoxited the route to the centre of town with flags, flowers and colourful bunting saving "Wel-come to the Reunification of

Hong Keng with the Mainland.
The Chinese military garrison will counsel of 4,700 froops, many more than were stationed or Hong Kong by Britain in re-cent wars. They will occupy the Bruish-built barracks and headquarters building, as well as takme over a recently-constructed mival base custom-built for the

At the Aroke of midnight yesterday. China's red flag was tusted over the former British How China marched in

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military headquarters, the Prince of Wales Building, which has yet to be renamed. Clad in newly-designed uniforms and.

eral Liu Huaqing, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, to be on their best behaviour. "With your actual deeds you must win the support and love of the Hong Kong people," he said.

Although an élite force in Chinese eyes, they will be paupers by Hong Kong standards, carning less than £10 per month, which is the price of a couple of beers in some of the more trendy bars.

They were giveo a rousing send off by children banging drums and waving ribbons, as lion dancers twisted and turned to bring good luck. Once well respected, the PLA's reputation has been severely damaged by its role in the Tiananmeo Square massacre. One of the generals commanding the oew Hong Kong forces told Bryan Dutton, the outgoing British

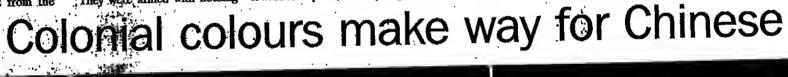
China rushes to establish a military presence within hours of British departure military headquarters, the commander said he was well aware of the army's need to restore its mage and saw the Hong Kong deployment as an opportunity to show the world that it could do so. However both the relatively large size of the garrison and the decision to bring in armoured cans, which could well be used for military headquarters, the

for internal control purposes, has seen criticised by the Amer-ican and British governments. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secnewly-designed uniforms and armed with rudimentary knowledge of Cantonese as well as English, the PLA garrison is seen as an elite force.

As they left the Chinese border town of Shenzhen the troops were instructed by General Liu Huaqing, vice chairman of the Central Military Com-

noning of troops is entirely a matter of Chinese sovereignty and is no business of anyone else. At an early stage in the nogotiations for Hong Kong's handover, the late Chinese leader, Deng Xiaoping, flew into a rage on being told that his officials had been sympathetic to British demands for a minimal

British demands for a minimal Chinese military presence in Hong Kong. He insisted that China would maintain a garrison at least as large as Britain's. The troops in Hong Kong are backed up by a sizable force on China's border which can be mobilised in case of emergency. All troops in the region have All troops in the region have been put on alert during the handover period, reflecting China's extreme anxiety over stahility in the early days of Chinese rule in Hong Kong.





Symbolic gesture: The Union fleg and the former Hong Kong flag being lowered for the last time

Blair accepts invitation to visit China

Teresa Poole Hong Kong

Tony Blair the Prime Minister, last night accepted an invitation from President Jiang Zemin to visit China, During a 40minute meeting, during which the Chinese president joked about Mr Blair's youth and how to overcome jetlag, the two leaders talked about "a new begin-ning" for a bilateral relationship which has spent the past five years on a roller-coaster of rows and recriminations.

About three hours before the British came down for the last time in Hong Kong, Mr Blair told the Chinese President. I would very much like to see that as this chapter in our history ends, we open a new chapter for the future, one of partnership and prosperity for our countries." He said that Britain wanted a relationship "based on the 21st cen-tury, putting the battles and struggles of the past behind us because we want 2 new relationship for a new world". A red bound volume of Shakespeare's collected works was presented to Mr Jiang, who tends to be fond of quoting the bard

or of Shanghai, he received the Queen visit to the United States, so Mr Blair will

Prime Minister tells Jiang that historic day marks new dawn in Sino-British relations

in 1986, congratulated Mr Blair on his election victory and issued a formal invitation to Mr Blair to visit China. A couple of hours later, Mr Jiang was able to renew his contact with British royalty with a brief exchange with Prince Charles.

Coming from a country where top lead-ers tend to reach their position long after they are pensionable, the 70-year-old Chinese President was bedazzled by the 44-year-old Blair's youth. "If there is one thing I have to admire about you, you are a young man. And it is pointless to be jealous of that because it is an objective reality." His youth, it was suggested, might have helped him with the jet-lag. No time scale was discussed for a Blair

visit to China, which will be the first by a British prime minister since a disastrous trip in 1991 by John Major. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, earlier told his counterpart, Qian Qichen, that he would like to visit before the end of this year. This autumn, Mr Jiang has both when meeting foreigners.

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probably have to wait until oext year. He last visited China in 1988. "I was even younger then," quipped Mr Blair.

The good-natured exchanges of the

meeting, however, will not be enough to ensure a smooth ride during the oext phase of Sino-British relations. And Hong Kong is still going to be the sticking point. Mr Blair repeatedly emphasised that China's adherence to the Joint Declaration, including free and fair elections, was a prerequisite to a new era in bilateral ties. He also had talks with the Prime Minister, Li Peng.

Hong Kong's new leader, Tung Chee-hwa, promised elections by next May "at the latest", which would replace the China-appointed legislature sworn in last night. However, Mr Tung intends to change the voting system even for the minority of directly-elected seats, and the proposed new electoral systems would all result in a reduction in the number of seats likely to be woo by the Demo-cratic Party. It remains to be seen how tough the British government will be if

it does not approve of the new system. Mr Blair was also said to have stressed freedom of the press and human rights in Hong Kong during the meetings with Chinese leaders and Mr Thing. But Hong Kong's political activists will be waiting to see whether Britain starts soft-peddling in its avowed commitment to keep an eye oo China's stewardship of the territory, preferring to put first the future potential trade and business

links with the mainland. Friendly overtures by China are likely to frost over if Peking decides London is trying to "meddle in China's internal affairs" - an accusation which tends to be defined broadly enough to cover anything. The British position is that as the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group continues its work until the turn of the century, this gives London the right to monitor developments in Hong Kong.

to the short term, with the vibes sounding much more buoyant than for a long time, the Government's biggest challenge will be trawl through London's bookshops. During last night's meeting, Mr Jiang said he was interested in a English novel called Waterloo Bridge, but ocither Mr Blair nor his entourage had

Hong Kong



handover

Territory toes the party line with a big bash

For many residents, the point of the night wasn't politics - it was the chance to celebrate

Susan Oh and Sam Coates

While the world's attention was focused on the handover of power from one nation to another in Hong Kong's Convention and Exhibition Centre, for residents of the (former) British colony, that particular event may not have been of quite such



outside the Convention Centre. the evening was spent wining and dining in one - or several of the territoriy's many parties.

Socialites in custom-made

colonial gowns and cheongsams

at the Regent Handover Extravaganza toasted Hong Kong's last few minutes of British rule with Champagne and a fanfare, as part of a bash that cost over \$1m in sets, costumes and live entertainment. The highlight was the appearince of a "governor" in 1850s Edwardian dress and a Chinese beauty draped in a red cheongsam made of mirrors. who were escorted across a ballroom by a pair of Sikh guards to live bagpipe music. At that point Britannia herself stepped in, adorned in a crystal studded fake fur gown and followed by flag bearers. Then on the stroke of midnight the entire ballroom was transformed intn a deft mock-up of

Tianneman Square. At that moment on the oth-cr side of the harbour, the likes of supermodel Claudia Schiffer were finishing off their fiftb and final course whilst watching the Convention Centre ceremonies.



Jacking it in: Reveilers carrying a Union Flag through the Hong Kong streets

once again to dance away the night, accompanied by a live pop

Those on the guest list of one private party in the Midlevels area were treated to a tape from the China Products Emporium department store, greeting the new Chinese leaders. Then immediately after midnight, the group promised they were go-ing to first toast the Queen and sing the British National Anthem, followed immediately with a toast to the Chinese leadership. Those who knew the Mandarin lyrics would then ioin in a muzak-and-chorus recording of China's national

Every spare inch of roof space was used for partying: on top of shopping centres, office blocks, in cases and on junks. Revellers dressed in everything from colonial gowns of satin to Shantung silk suits, Private parties booked belly dancers, snake charmers and live bands. Caterers cashed in on the evening. and despite charging more than double for last night, most had been booked up for more than

There were the odd places, however, where celebrations were not quite as lively as they could have been. Hong Kong's most famous hotel, the Penin-

six months.

bour, passed over the opportunity of a handover party, pre-ferring instead to organise a series of dinner-dances in each of its restaurants. They didn't even count down the last few

cluh's sixth hirtbday. For most people in the territory, many of whom work six or seven-day weeks, the almost unprecedented five days holiday seconds of colonial rule - some that has been granted over the

eventswere in celebration of the

'Every inch of space was used for partying, in cafes and on junks'

guests were unsure when one administration had ended and the next begun. Some places even refused to acknowledge most famous hotel, the Penin-sula, which overlooks the har-China Club claiming that their town over the handover period was the "Unity" rave, which was

handover period gave ample opportunity for every permutation of party and celebration. One of the hottest tickets in

held last Saturday night at an ex-hibition centre near the alroort. in recent days, with junks all around the island, Several peohibition centre near the airport. ple coasted round the special ex-It was organised by prominent local businessmen, and despite clusion zones to watch the the entrance fee costing over HK\$75 (£60), tens of thou-British and Chinese firework displays from a better vantage sands of people packed in to the venue to hear the live bands and point than the tens of thousands who were trying to see from the DJs. Many, however, did not last harbour side. all the way through to the end Many will take to the water again this evening, to see the "Hong Kong 97 Spectacular" as it lasted a mammoth 12

hours, from 10pm on Saturday might through to 10am on Suna fireworks and light show spanning the entire harbour. It is day morning. The rave included a number produced by Don Mischer, who of celebrity guest stars, includdirected the opening and closing DJ Boy George and Grace ing ceremonies at the Atlanta Olympic Games and organised

New uses for

an old home

The Harbour was the focus for many people's celebrations ficials had en warned

the Grand Opening of Euro

What the Chinese press had to say on the morning of 1 July. On top of culture - Asian and Western changes brought by the han-Angelica Cheung took - which had made the territo- dover, saying that under British of that, thousands of villagers a look through the Hong colonial rule. British con

rule, the Chinese papers in Hong Kong focused on the arrival of state leaders from all over the world to attend the handover ceremony, the preparation work for last night's celebration and celebration activities in Chinese communities all over the world.

search which showed a sudden drop in confidence towards the "one country, two systems" policy, because some people were worried about Hong Kong's ed. The report said many people got depressed and nervous as the handover began to loom.

Several papers reported on the preparation work of more close to the Chinese border to welcome the arrival of the Peocome teams" to meet the Chinese army.

Other reports included the news that Shenzhen public security hureau had received information that two separatists from Xinjiang province on the north-west border had entered the city at the Hong Kong-Chi-Additional stories included re- na border, and were planning to place bombs, possibly at the railway station during the han-

There were also reports said to he from British military ineconomic future and suspected that freedom would be restrict that the IRA was planning to telligence sources which said create trouble in Hong Kong to attract world attention.

On the China pages, the Eco-nomic Journal reported that Peking had decided to carry out than 10,000 people in villages a major reorganisation of its publishing business. All the internally distributed publications would be closed down and



Kong newspapers on the last day of colonial rule and found them focusing on the handover celebrations

had stopped since early last year. At present, there are 2,202 registered newspapers in China, plus more than 6.400 internally distributed ones. On the entertainment front,

stuntmen-turned action stars. Kong's history reflected the would reunite, and put on a merging of two different kinds

BUT NOW WE STAND PROUD:

DHE COUNTRY UNITED I WE RAISE OUR YOICES IN THANKS. WELL, ANYWAY, IF WE DIDN'T

WE'D ALL BE RUN OYER BY YANKS.

show to celebrate the handover. registration for new newspapers All the editorials of the Chinese press commented on the end of the British colonial rule last night. The out-spoken Apple Daily, owned by anti-Communist businessman Jimmy Lai, action star Jackie Chan had re- said that when the British octurned to the territory from the cupied Hong Kong during the shooting of his new movie to participate in the handover ex-pected that the deserted island travaganza, playing the role of would become the most free lead drummer. For the first and prosperous economic centime in 20 years, seven top tre in the world. It said Hong

LARRY FEIGN

FORGET ABOUT PREFDON OF SPEECH

IF WE DO AS WE'RE TOLD: "LET'S SHUT UP AND ALL MAKE MONEYT

AND ELECTIONS,
THEY'RE FOREIGN AS THE EASTER BUNNY.
THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

ry a place of creativity. The pa-per said the British had come with shame, but after creating a wonder in the world, they could retreat with honour. The mainstream Ming Pao

pointed out that although Hong Kong should go back to China. people should think about what British legacy should be pre-served after the handover. It said the British had set up

a sensible and modern system, so that diligent Hong Kong people could compete freely on an equal footing and make use of the opportunities brought by China's open door policy. The paper said the efficient system comprised three parts, a freemarket economy, a clean and efficient hurcaucratic team and rule of law, which the new govcrament should maintain.

The business daily Hong Kong Economic Times commented

Hong Kong's civil servants tend to view life under Chinese

sovereignty with a certain

apprehension, and none more

so than Lily Wong, writes

hold." In the first instance, a de-

cent holiday to recover from all

those fireworks. Lily's the sort

of girl who likes the idea of

lounging around on the beach

on Australia's Gold Coast, says

her creatnr. Larry Feign.
As readers of The Indepen-

dent know. Lily was rescued

from premature retirement

What does the future now

Teresa Poole.

had enjoyed privileges in the ter-

But in a new era which began today, the dominant players on Hong Kong's economic scene would be Hong Kong Chinese and mainland capitals, and if the British could put themselves in a proper position, they could continue to have a part in Hong

Kong's prosperity.
The Peking-backed Ta Kung Pao's editorial was titled "Goodbye Britannia", having a go at

the Democrats. It said that it was time for Hong Kong Chinese to look forward to the new cra, and that if Hong Kong people wanted democracy and freedom, the first thing was to put colonial system to an end. It said the Democratic Party leaders might be temporary guests on the Britannia, but eventually, they bad on the potential economic to come back to land.

Kong governors, will not become a "museum of colonial atrocities" as the outgoing Governor Chris Patten liked to joke. Instead it will he a mixture of an official guest house. a place for formal government occasions and parts of it might well be opened to the public. Tung Chee-hwa, Mr Patten's

Government House, the home

and office of successive Hong

Stephen Vines

Hong Kong

successor, has declined to live there because he fears it has had fung shui, meaning that its location is unfavourably oriented and could bring bad luck. However Mr Tung seems to

have been impressed by the last Governor's tentative attempts at opening up the house. He made the premises available for charity concerts and opened the gardens at times when the azaleas and thododendrons bloomed. The 100 or so staff had been

fearful that they would loose their jobs, but have now heen told they can stay on although it is not clear what functions people like the tailor and various office staff will perform.

Mr Tung is not even intending to have an office in Government House. He prefers to operate from the 1960s municipal town hall-style Government Secretariat down the hill This involves kicking both the Chief Secretary and Financial Secretary out of their offices to create a new suite of rooms for

the 10p man. Government House, built in 1855 and briefly occupied by the commander of the Japanese forces during the Second World War, is seen as just that hit too colonial for the new order. It is remarkably similar to other colonial buildings in the Far East and, by Hong Kong stan-dards, is remarkably old.

Were the new order keen to raise some cash they might consider releasing this prime property for redevelopment. It would be sure to fetch a price somewhere in the outer stratosphere.

News-stands are closed in police clampdown

Stephen Vines

News-stands in the streets near Hong. Kong's Convention Centre, where the handover ceremonies were taking place, were shut down by the police during the five-day period set aside to The police claim that the clamp-

down on newspaper sales is part of a nuttine crackdown on illegal hawkers. However, licensed news-stands have also been shut down. In addition, hawkers selling newspapers and mag-

BALLAD OF THE HANDOVER (Kerseke vernon)

THE FIRST OF JULY, AN ERA BEGINS WE RISE TO GREET THE NEW DAWN THE SHAME OF HISTORY IS NOW AVENGED

FINALLY THE BRITISH ARE GONE!

azines in the nearby Causeway Bay area have been requested by the police to place controversial political publications either under the counter, or inless prominent positions

Hawkers were told that the closure was prompted by fears that they would display sensitive publications which might offend guests participating in the handover events. This unprecedented closure of news-stands prompted the editor of a China-watching magazine to say: "It sends a very worrying mes-

TRUE, HONG KONG WOULD STILL BE A BARREN ROCK

FIT HADN'T BEEN OWNED BY THE BRITS.

the sale or even display of publications which may be offensive to people taking part in official events." The shut down has been conduct-

ed beneath a veil of secrecy and began before the handover ceremonies even started. It appears to be part of a process of placing a ring of steel around the convention centre, both for purposes of security and to ensure that the Chinese government participants are not aware of any protests or any form of activity which can be regardsage if the police are already preventing - ed as critical of the new government. - eign television stations.

Aside from attempts to keep newspapers off the streets around the convention centre, the impression of an early start for press censorship was re-inforced on Sunday night when both Hong Kong television stations were accused of refusing to cover a protest rally organised by the Democratic Party. Hong Kong's largest party. The party says that a diminishing number of their events have been receiving television coverage. However, the Sunday night demonstration was well covered by for-

As if to prove a point the television stations also declined to cover last week's launch of a report on freedom of expression in Hong Kong compiled by the Journalists' Association and the Article 19 anti-censorship pressure group. Repons of this kind used to be well reported by the electronic media which had a healthy appearse for press freedom stories. Carol Lai, the association's chairwoman, said the Hong Kong media was facing a crucial test in the coming weeks. She was unable to be optimistic about the outcome.

when this newspaper decided

she was the right person to

guide us through the final 100 days of British rule in Hong

Kong. The cartoon strip - The World of Lilv Wong - has

appeared daily.
Lily became personu non

grata in the territory in May

1995, when the South China

Morning Post abruptly can-

celled Mr Feign's contract, pri-

which dealt with the use of ex-

ecuted Chinese prisoners for



or to publication of a strip he had been delighted at the 100-day reprieve. "It has been a chance to finish the story. I feel a great sense of comple-Mr Feign, 41, yesterday said tion, not least because she bad

Since ties were severed by the South China Morning Post. Mr Feign has found it impossible to get work in Hong Kong. "I've heen hlacklisted, I can't even find work doing illustrations for a company brochure." he said. So Mr Feign, and his Hong Kong wife and haby, intend to

While the Lily Wong series for The Independent ends this morning, she can still be reached through her web-page: www.asiaonline.net/lilywong

leave - like Lily Wong - but to

where, who knows?

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Be brave, Chancellor: let's have a radical Budget

o, is Labour going to have to innocence. Possibilities that were open offend people at last? Tomorrow's will have closed. Budget will bring winners and losers. Conventional wisdom holds that the Chancellor cannot help but burst the Blair bubble, puncturing the unreality of a two-month-old administration that has pleased rich and poor, left and right, cynical and gullible alike. Do not be so sure. The Government has raised the art of massaging expectations to a higher, unfamiliar plane, and there is no reason why "Flash" Gordon should not make a presentation that will surprise and gratify most people. The weekend trailing of the abolition of mortgage tax relief was particularly impressive: for suspicious minds it suggests that Labour's sultans of spin are on a mission to misinform, and that the plan is for Mr Brown to announce the survival of the tax subsidy, to a chorus of grateful approval from Middle England. On the other hand, the case for abolition is overwhelming; perhaps he will simply speed up its staged withdrawal, damping house prices without immediately taking £6 a week from home-owners.

Speculation, of course, is futile. So let us try to stick to the big picture, and keep the hype at bay. This Budget matters terribly: there ought to be butterflies in Mr Brown's stomach as he rises to the Dispatch Box. He knows how important it is for the Blair-Brown project that he gets it right. After this Bud-get, the Government will have lost its fare-to-work is the interface with lone

What matters as much as the specific measures are the signals that the Budget sends about Labour's values and priorities. Economic behaviour will be changed not just by direct financial incentives, but by a knowledge of the direction of public policy. In 1979, Geoffrey Howe not only encouraged trade and travel by abolishing exchange controls; he also conveyed a sense of the government's determination to adhere to its philosophy of economic liberalism.

Whether or not Mr Brown's Budget makes a similar bang, it is bound to make the Government's direction clearer. Some of Mr Brown's priorities are those of any chancellor. Investment. Jobs. Low inflation. Winning the next election. To a large extent, these reinforce each other, and their relative weight is a matter of pragmatic judgement. But there are other, more contentious priorities, each of which could end up being recorded by history as the distinctive feature of this Budget.

The original purpose of an early mini-Budget was always to levy tax on the windfall profits of privatised utilities, so the welfare-to-work scheme for which this is to pay has been elevated to the status of Labour's Big Idea. But it is an unsatisfactory one, as it is clear neither what precisely the idea is, nor how big



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E145DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 3405 / 0171-345 2485

the young unemployed are to be offered training and work schemes, along with some older, long-term unemployed, the Chancellor has shown relatively little interest in one million lone mothers. The trouble is, few of them can earn enough both to cut their dependence on benefits and to pay for child care. And spending all that money as a one-off to employ 250,000 young people may lead Labour down a cul-de-sac: surely it would be better to use the windfall levy for a single leap in educational standards for the least able 14-19-year-olds?

The windfall/welfare idea looks a

parents. While a dwindling number of little faded now that Labour is in power. It has also become confused by Mr Brown's attempt to frighten us with an official report confirming a "black hole" in the public finances, thereby raising the whole question of whether or not taxes should be raised. Let us hope this is part of the pre-match spin too; a City-led fever that will soon subside. Gavyn Davies, columnist for The Independent and an adviser to the Chancellor, has argued convincingly in these pages that government borrowing will come down faster than predicted.

Meanwhile, the Budget has also been loaded with the luggage of "fairness".

It is in the name of this euphemism for "equality" that Mr Brown will announce a cut in VAT on home gas and electricity from 8 per cent to 5 per cent. But as this will provide the most benefit to those who use most energy - that is, the better off - he will have to do something else to keep that baggage on board. It is important that he does so, because the privatised ntility bosses have a limited shelf-life as scapegoats.

The cut in VAT also contradicts another priority (rather more recent), that of greening the planet. For someone who came to power explicitly not promising the Earth, Tony Blair last week sounded suspiciously as if he were planning to rescue it. But that Earth Summit speech, and the sono voce rumblings about green taxes from the Chancellor, will be empty without real goads. Merely taxing fuel is not the answer; petrol is already heavily taxed. Instead we should find ways to encourage people to buy cars that use less of it, and make it convenient and cheap for them to use other kinds of transport.

Real radicalism means finding new forms of persuasion, new ways of approaching tax (by, for example, signalling an intention to unity the tax and benefits system). It means ditching anything hinting at makeworkery, to concentrate on radical reform of the education system, properly funded. It means challenging the NHS to devise new ways of organising itself more effi-

ciently, and making judgements about which treatments it can afford, and when. It means breaking down the "us and them" mentality in private and public enterprise (yes, it is still there, even after all these years). And all this needs to happen while keeping firmly in place the managerial and economic liberties that have stimulated this recent period of sustained growth in Britain. That, Gordon, is what radical means now.

A man of failure? No fear

Testerday we reported that men I would achieve more if they didn't suffer from a fear of failing. Through anxiety about not achieving, they shy from making the attempt. Men tend to think they are perceived as childish when they express emotion, when in fact they are childish when they do not. Chris Patten does not belong to this group. He took on a job that had failure written into the contract, in the sense that he had to surrender his task at the end, knowing his work would be mostly unstitched. But his achievement is considerable. He held to his principles of honesty, openness, liberty and decision. And he had the grace to weep on parting, which (since they understand what they feel) is what grown-up people do.

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

Death in cell: officials had been warned

Sir: It gives me no satisfaction to write, following the inquest into the tragic and unnecessary death in his cell at Breotford magistrates' court of Peter Austin on 29 January, to say that I had warned the Prison Service of concerns about the care of prisoners while in the custody of Securicor Custodial Services ("Securicor staff suspended for death in their care", 26 June).

In June 1994, I was among 40 people appointed to a panel of lay observers to courts in the London area under s.81(b) of the Criminal Justice Act 1991, II quickly became apparent that lay observers were to be no more than Home Office stooges, with no recognition of their statutory role. After seeking to influence change from within, but without success, I resigned in disgust in March 1996. I regretted doing so as the work of lay observers extremely important hut I left in the knowledge that some truly excellent fellow members remained on the panel although many of the original 40 had also resigned by that time, some for similar reasons.

The statutory duty imposed on lay observers is to "inspect the conditions in which prisoners are transported or held in pursuance of the regulations and to make recommendations to the Secretary of State". Almost from the outset, as lay observers we were limited in what we were permitted to comment or report on; matters relating to Securicor staff or the physical conditions in which prisoners were held, we were told, were beyond our remit, thereby rendering us virtually impotent. The two annual reports produced by the panel, written by the chairman, failed to draw attention to important concerns expressed by panel members.

It appeared Home Office officials worked in fear of incurring the displeasure of the Home Secretary. His wrath knew no bounds, and they did not want to report or draw attention to matters that might rouse him. It was maintained that commeots about Securicor staff were "cootractual", and therefore "commercially confidential" and solely between the Home Office and Securicor.

Many of the custody areas in the courts were inadequate, frequently squalid and dirty and lacking in basic facilities. The fact that the Lord Chancellor's Department needed to find a considerable sum to bring them up to a reasonable standard was not something the panel's monitor, a Home Office official, wished to report.

Before and after my resignation had meetings with and wrote to Prison Service officials about my concerns. So far as I know my expressions of concern have oot been acted on.

The present Home Secretary would be well advised to call for the papers and review the operation of the monitoring and lay observer arrangements for the prisoner escort contracts. The London scheme was complacent, weak and flawed and this situation is probably reported elsewhere in the country. It is in need of thorough overhaul. It is our outy to ensure that the lessons are learnt from Mr Austin's death. NICHOLAS LONG London SW4

Sir. As those representing the family of Peter Austin, we write to express some of the concerns his death has highlighted.



During the seven-day inquest there were no fewer than seven legal teams representing Securicor (the company), Securicor (the employees), the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, the Police Federation (representing the individual police officers), the police doctor, the local authority and the Home Office. These were well resourced out of public or corporate funds. The family of Peter Austin, on the other hand, had to rely oo voluctary help as legal aid is not

vailable for inquests. We discovered during the inquest that the Home Office had already had an internal ioquiry and that nooe of the documents from this, or its conclusion, were to be made available to the family, the coroner or the jury. Other documents in the possession of the police were only disclosed during the inquest, there being no advance disclosure to the

Although the Home Office is obliged by statute to monitor and review the prisoner escort arrangements, we were shocked to see that the barrister representing the Home Office made no inquiry intu the conduct of the seven Securicor officers who gave evidence. It was only through questions from the family's barrister that the gross madequacies of training and care in this case were brought into the public domain.

It is imperative that the Government look into the issue of private security firms and their care of detained persons. The jury's verdict and the public interest demand this. **DEBORAH COLES** Co-director, Inquest SADIQ KHAN London N4

Clinton ducks climate issue

Sir: I applaud John Gummer's criticism (article, 28 Juoe) of President Clioton's Earth Summit speech while bemoaning Michael Meacher's conciliatory ooises about the "positive" tone of the speech. By not setting targets for reductions in greenhouse gases. Clinton is signalling that he is beholden to American "business as usual" consortia such as the Global Climate Coalition, which includes

Although the insurance industry is now raising premiums because of the greater risk of extreme events related to climate change, businesses represented by the GCC and similar consortia are resisting the need to modify their operations. Short-term profit considerations overrule long-term

Clinton is also failing miserably in calling upon scientists to devise new technologies to cope with pollution and climate change: a classic case of treating the symptoms while ignoring the underlying disease. By all means, let us properly fund scientific research into the climate system. but at the same time we should reduce our ecological footprint on the only world we have. Dr DAVID CROMWELL

Sir: There has been disappointment expressed at the conference in Denver that

Southanipion Green Party

countries have not faced up to the problem of carbon-dioxide emissions. This is no doubt

something that wealthy countries will have to do. In the meantime there is a simple and painless way to help reduce the consumption of fossil fuels. Reduce central heating. How many of us wear summer clothes indoors in winter or heat

the whole house even when some rooms are not in use? Offices are so warm that shirt-sleeves are worn in winter. Often when we go into a shop, dressed for outside winter, we are engulfed by another climate zooe. If offices, shops and homes all reduced heating even by one degree we would help to slow down the greenhouse effect. JEAN ARMSTRONG

Sir: I think Ani Harris could already "give back" surplus electricity from roof solar panels (letter, 23 June). Ensure the local and grid supplies are synchronised in frequency and phase, then provided your generation voltage i a hit higher than theirs, after connecting together the energy flow will be reversed, and the meter will run backwards.

However, I'm sure the suppliers would be very unhappy about any kind of amateur installation, given the obvious need to meet stringent safety requirements that would protect both your correspondent's system and the National Gridl A much better, cheaper and simpler use of solar power is to supplement the domestic hot water supply, more especially if this uses able to provide sufficient qualified

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

an electric immersion heater as the DT TIM DENNIS

Sir. "As I drove to work at the United Nations this morning ..." writes Mr Rusling from the Palais des Nations in Geneva (letter, 28 June). Meanwhile in New York a special session of his organisation' Geocral Assembly was discussing the need for us all to adopt more sustainable lifestyles. Is there oo public transport in Geneva? ALEX GALLOWAY ondon SE6.

Britain's digital TV victory

Sir: Polly Toynbee asks "Who really won the battle?" for the future of digital hroadcasting (25 June). The answer is that Britain won.

Of course she is right to show concern at the possible increased powers of BSkyB, but that is best answered by protecting the BBC and is, in this argument, a sideshow. The awarding of the franchise to British Digital Broadcasting will hring about investment by British companies and will create British jobs. Most estimates say that £300m will be invested creating up to

125,000 jobs. Broadcasting is one of our major industrial sectors and is one area at least where we "lead the world". Indeed a major concern is that our universities and colleges will not be

people and a potential skill shortage now needs to be addressed. It is worth noting in all the hullabaloo that if this had been an American franchise, the British hid would have been disallowed. As it is, the Americans had a fair crack of the whip, and lost. PHIL WOOLAS MP Oldham East and Suddleworth House of Commons London SWI

Dangerous game Sir: I was bemused by George Howarth's statement (Letters, 28 June) that "taking an Ecstasy tablet

is like playing Russian roulette". Little could be farther from the The chance of dying in Russian

roulette is easily estimated at around one in six. The equivalent figure for taking an Ecstasy tahlet is harder to obtain, but using reasonable estimates for the number of tablets consumed each year in the UK (say, 25 million) and the number of deaths each year (about six) an estimate of one in 4 million cannot be too far from the truth. Most of us regularly engage in leisure activities far more risky than this. JONATHAN JONES

Play back Sir: The answer to Stephen

Harvey's irritation with music on the phone (letter, 30 June) is to wait to be connected and then to send back music, or noise, of his own choice. JOHN RATCLIFFE Monks Eleigh, Suffolk

Churches in a secular society

Sir: Paul Handley is right to take issue with Fr Harper over the benefits of church-swapping (Faith & Reason, 28 June), but for more important reasons than those he states. What denominational vacillation obscures is the overall decline of religion in modern industrialised societies, which is now reaching critical proportions and seems irreversible.

This process of secularisation has been accelerating for the last 200 years, but more noticeably over recent decades. Various defensive strategies like ecumenical huddling have proved ineffective and the glowing proliferation of sects and cults does not alter the overall picture of numerical decline. There now seems little doubt that the situation which we now have to face is of survival in a post-religious

It is difficult for religiously inclined people to acknowledge this reality and its acceptance can be deflected by a variety of events for example by the influx of immigrant groups for whom religion has always been an important attribute of ethnicity. Interestingly, the mantle of religious zealotry which was once borne by Catholic migrants is now being taken up by Muslims: hut the pattern is always the same - after three generations it has become so threadbare as to be cast aside by all hut a minority of increasingly eccentric or apocalyptic groups, fighting fotile rearguard actions, as

in the London enev. Rather than expend vast amounts of energy on swimming against the tide it would be more beneficial to chart oew spiritual seas, like the prophets of Israel, which will enable us to address the needs of a new kind of pluralist society. What is needed is a commitment to ethical rationalism which recognises common oeed and civic justice leading to a transcendent humanism. The alternative of swapping denominations, like changing cahins on the Titanic, won't address the underlying issues, however good it makes you feel. Fr DOMINIC KIRKHAM

Pirate CDs

Sir: I can well uoderstand the record industry's concern that Philips' new mass-market CD recorder may promote CD piracy (report, 26 June). The price of an album has more than doubled in the last 10 years, well above the rale of inflation.

Even as the cost of CD production decreases, the margin between royalties to the musician and the overall price of a CD continues to widen. Somebody, somewhere between the musician and the consumer, is getting greedict and greedier. Perhaps the ncentive to pirate CDs would be less if this greed could be TOM HEIGHTMAN

Forgotten corner

Sir: "Nemesis of the golden hoy who cut too many corners" (21 June). Can anyone enlighten me as to the origin of the phrase "to cut corners"? Does it relate to tennis, or "square-bashing"? My search in dictionaries and Brewer's Phrase and Fable throws no light. ANN HALES Cambridge

Thirty years ago,

homosexuality could put you

in jail. Rupert Cornwell

looks at the taboos of the

times and the courage of the campaigners who

changed the law

he grainy pictures may be re-enactments, but their power to shame is no less for that.

Seedy public lavatories, the

swift eye contact and even swifter understanding, the hurried encounter in the cubicle, interrupted by

policemen in pairs hunting their quarry.

as terrifying as Nazi storm-troopers in

a wartime ghetto. Was this really the Britain of little more than 30 years ago, when London swung, everyone was having a good time, and a bohhy's proper task was to keep the Beatles from being torn apart by their fans?

Sadly, and today scarcely believably,

for one British minority it was. Until the

House of Commons finally passed the 1967 Sexual Offences Act, 30 years ago

this week, legalising consensual sex in private for men over 21, homosexuality was a crime, and its practitioners were persecuted with the righteous ferocity of the mediaeval church root-

ing out heretics. By the mid-Fifties.

t.000 men annually were being jailed.

in one Birmingham case 28 of them for 18 months apiece, all on the strength of the entries in one man's diary. Some country. Some ghetto. To end this it

took two brave parliamentarians. Leo Abse in the Commons and Lord Arran

in the upper House, and - to borrow the title of a fascinating Channel 4 documentary to be hroadcast this Thursday - the passage of a Bill called William.

Arran was a certified eccentric who

claimed just two interests in life, "to stop people buggering badgers, and to stop people badgering huggers". No gay himself, he was in truth considerably

fonder of badgers than of buggers, and to spare himself discomfort referred to his charge as "William". Abse, the Bill's sponsor in the Commons, was

famous for his flamboyant suits. More

pertinently, he was a legislator of rare

conscience, tenucity and skill. For both. the task was the same, to persuade their colleagues to think about the unthink-

able, and speak about the unspeakable.

The consequence was arguably the most surreal debate ever conducted by

"They managed to talk as if they'd never met anyone like that," Maudie

Littlehampton famously observed in an

Osbert Lancaster carroon - a line surely

provoked by the spectacle of Viscount

Montgomery asserting that, of the mil-

lions of men under his command in the

War, not one would ever have "got up

the mother of Parliaments.

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ess of last weekend's New York Gay Pride parade AP/Todd Pitt want to repeat Bill Clinton's 1993 fiasco over gays in the US military. Even so, a ed free vote should bring a majority in favour of lowering the homosex-ual age of consent to 16, aligning it with the law for heterosexuals. If parliament-

lesbian pressure group Stonewall.

And should Westminster fail, there's always Strasbourg. Europhobes and homophobes alike will shudder, but three separate cases currently before the European Court of Justice may prove decisive in the gay lohby's campaign to reduce the age of consent, protect againsr discrimination in the workplace, and end the ban on homosexuals in the armed forces.

might have been "cottaging", slinking around public urinals in the hope of a furtive encounter. Last week they were in front of the TV cameras at a smart London restaurant to unveil an action programme called "Equality 2000". demanding equal treatment in the workplace and for tax, pension and immigration purposes, as well as an end to discriminatory application of the existing gross indecency law.

The word that truly defines this vision is "normality". After a life of almost 70 years. 37 of them spent with his current partner. Grey still yearns for it: "There should be no need for any-one to deny his sexuality; being gay should be no big talking-point, and no one's husiness." For Leo Abse, the quest was always easier. On the July dawn when the Bill was finally passed. "I went home, and my wife took me in her arms. And at that moment I realised that all of politics is insignificant, compared to deep personal relationships between human beings." What hetter definition of normality could there be? But, three decades after William, gays

A Bill that dared not speak its name

to that sort of thing". In the Commons, right-wing Tory MPs assailed a "buggers' charter" designed to protect "pimps, pansies and queers".

But for gay MPs in particular. William was an excruciating ordeal.

There were a few exceptions, such as the hrilliant and reckless Tom Driherg. Abse remembers the "great courage" of his colleugue. "While all this was going on, he was a member of the NEC and at one point national chairman of the Labour Party. But he kept coming to me asking if he could help, and each time spoke in favour of the Bill." But most were, understandably, less heroic. "Sevcral homosexual MPs ostentatiously voted against me. They were bachelors, they were vulnerable, they were afraid and you could see it in their eyes."

In this era of Gay Liberation, such backsliding would guarantee instant outing. Back then, however, William's success was anything but guarantecd; in the event it survived a third-reading filibuster attempt by a single vote after an all-night sitting. Had it failed, homosexuality would have remained a crime. Heterosexual supporters of the measure were taking a risk, too - even Abse himself. In his Welsh mining constituency , where values were old-fashioned and religion ran deep, gay sex was anothema. "I think I was able to ride the storm hecause they were too ashamed to talk about it."

To keep his fragile craft afloat, Abse had to accept an amendment defining privacy as two adults and no more I thus averting a dreaded plague of "buggers' clubs"). Many of his arguments, he admits now, were "absolute crap". couched in such terms as saving "faulty males" from themselves. But at the third attempt, almost a decade after the 1957 Wolfenden report first urged that homosexuality be decriminalised, a Bill was passed. Admittedly it was imperfect. and most gays would prefer to stay in the closet. But no longer did prison automatically heckon, or the unanswerable gouging of a blackmailer.

In his lurid autobiography Ruling Passions, which is studded with cameo accounts of his own hasty, illicit couplings, Driberg makes but one, melancholy, reference to the measure. The passing of the sexual offences act, welcome though it was, really made no difference to the problems of the lonely and the promiscuous" (in other words, himself). For them, the best solution would be licensed male brothels, "run by respectable persons, with charges strictly controlled ... such as I have occa-sionally patronised in New York and San Francisco". Or, he might have added. the underground urinal in central Moscow, whose merits Driberg once pointed out to the exiled Guy Burgess.

Tndeed, one unarguable beneficiary of William has been the security of Lthe realm. Given the climate of the time, small wonder so many British spies earlier this century were homosexual. John Vassall, of course, was a straightforward blackmail victim - hut for others, such as Guy Burgess, Anthony Blunt and Donald Maclean, dissimulation and subterfuge were seamless. If one is forced by society into a secret sexual existence, then how much easier to embrace an equally secret political loyalty? The second oldest profession still flourishes, but rarely these days for reasons of sexual orientation.

For the rest, however, the legal follow-through has been meagre. In 1994 the age of consent for bomosexuals was lowered from 21 to 18. But despite an ever noisier, more confident gay culture, the practising homosexual remains suspect. There may be gay MPs. gay ministers and mainstream gay chic, but according to the latest British Social Attitudes survey, almost two-thirds of the population believe homosexual sex

to be wrong, a proportion hasically unchanged for 15 years. Then there is Britain's quite peculiar

attitude to sex, a strange, tabloid-driven cocktail of prurience and puritanism that leaves the rest of the world in uncomprehending mirth, as it lurches from puerile titillation to supercharged moral outrage at "sex monsters on the loose" - as often as not homosexuals. Hence, according to Antony Grey, leader of the lobby for reform in the Fifties and Sixties and now elder statesman of Britain's gay community, a piecemeal, inconsistent approach hy successive governments. The public debate is more open, hut there's an awful lot to be done. In many ways, the Sixties were a better time than today. The drug culture was in its infancy: the atmosphere was gentler and more idealistic.

But at least William still commands the support of the public, however unen-thusiastic. A majority of the population would love to hring hack capital pun-ishment, and a substantial minority would outlaw abortion. But apart from pathological queer-bashers, no one seriously helieves homosexuality between consenting adults should once again he deemed a crime. And the moment for another reformist push may be ripe.

Lahour is back in power, its ranks filled with young and idealistic MPs, just as three decades ago. True, crusading independent backbenehers such as Leo Abse are a breed close to extinction, and the extent of Mr Blair's reformist zeal may be doubted - certainly, be will not

Changing times: from the hidden cuality of old to the

ary time is granted, repeal of "Section 28", the infamous 1988 provision barring local authorities from "promoting" homosexuality, looks another sure bel: "Anything we can get to a vote, we'll win," is the huhhling prediction of Angela Mason, director of the gay and leckion present group Stoneng!"

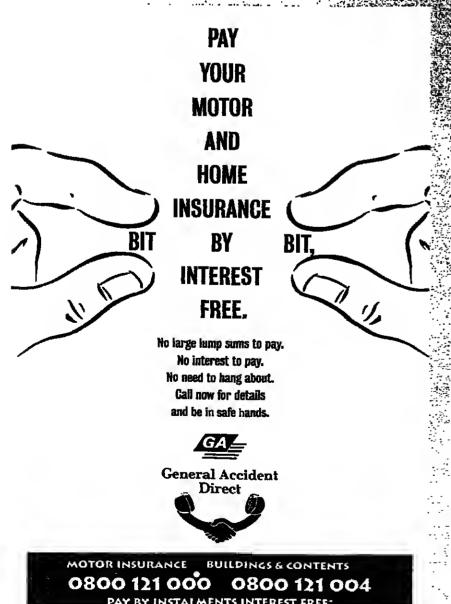
ltimately, however, not only laws but attitudes must change. "What we really need," says Grey, who led the Homosexual Law Grey, who led the Homosexual Law Reform Society, which pressed the 1967 Bill, "is proper education about sexual minorities, that homosexuals are not a threat. Being gay is still treated as freakish and exotic, often as an object of ridicule. Young people who discover they are gay still have a terrible fear of isolation and rejection by family and friends if they come out. It can still cost you your job. That's why I was disappointed William Hague said that if he were homosexual he wouldn't have stood for the Tory leadership. It was a pity he felt obliged to say that.
The fact is, most gays are still in the closet. We're the only minority without

visible natural leaders, without our visihle equivalent of a grand rabhi. In the homosexual community the leaders are the strident ones, people with nothing to lose." Such views have earned him the scorn of modern, in-your-face act-ivists as a trimmer, even an Uncle Tom. rvists as a trimmer, even an Uncle Tom.
But Grey is unrepentant. "They don't
understand what it was like in the Sixties. You couldn't bave shouted and
waved banners back then. It would have
been utterly counter-productive."

Today of course, hanners and publicity are the weapons of choice to complete William's unfinished business.
Thirty years ago, Stonewall's memhers
might have been "cottaging", slinking

still cannot claim it as their own.

'A Bill Called William' will be broadcast on Thursday on Channel 4, at 9pm.



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Who's who in the quest for Ernest Draggle

id I ever tell you id I ever tell you the story of my father's collection father's collection of signed first editions?" said Lord Callway, as we sat vawning in the club one night. We all sat back, as if

encouraging him to tell it.
"It look him years and years to amass the collection, and yet there were only a dozen or so books in it. "Not many for a

collection." said Major Garforth. "No. indeed," said Lord Callway. "That is because it took him most of that 30 years just to get one book signed. You see, he started off with an Aldous Huxley book signed by the author.

and another by Compton Mackenzie, and another by Ernest Draggle ... Who on earth was Ernest Draggle?" said Major

Gartonh. Exactly what my father said." said Lord Callway. "He asked me and I didn't know, and he asked my mother and she said she didn't know, and he asked the gardener and he didn't know, and he asked the housekeeper ..."

"Don't go round the whole

dratted staff," said old Hugh Ingot-Jones, or we'll be here all night."
"And the housekeeper

said." went on Lord Callway, ignoring interruptions, as was his wont. "that it would save everyone a lot of time if he looked it up in Who's Who. My father saw the sense of this, and got down his copy of 13ho's Who 1954, which was the year this happened. and as he was browsing. through it, it suddenly occurred to him how nice it would be to have a signed copy of Who's Who."
"How could you have a

signed copy of Who's Who?"
I said. There must be dozens of authors. You could never track them all down." "Ah, that's just the point!"

said Lord Callway. "You know exactly who the authors are hecause every entry in Who's Who is written by the subject himself or herself. So what my father set out to do was get every entry in that edition of Who's Who signed by the person involved. Now, he couldn't get people just to send him their signature, because the book itself had to be signed. He had to take the book physically to all the



Miles Kington

thousands of people mentioned. It was quite easy to begin with, because he knew a lot of them personally and was related to quite a lot of others, so pretty soon he had several hundred signatures.

"But he had a narrow escape with one of them, his uncle, Lord Pastrell, who was rather ill and could only just sign his name - indeed, Lord Pastrell died a year later in a hunting accident. "Fell from his horse"

inquired Garforth.
-What? Oh, no - he was savaged by a fox one day when they were short of

foxhounds, Anyway, this alerted my father to the fact that he ought to collect the signatures of the old and infirm first in case they died off. So he worked down from the oldest, and by a stroke of tuck found them all alive and kicking. Of course, a tot of the distinguished johnnies in Who's Who are foreign professors of dentistry in Sri Lanka, politicians in Paraguay, that sort of thing -so he took a year off travelling round the world. staying with all his ambassador friends. Some of the politicians had been put behind hars by the time he got there, and my father and his book became quite a

prisons of the world. "Anyway, to cut a long story short, he counted up his signatures one day and found he had got every one in the book, except one entry. And guess who that missing entry was?"

familiar sight in the top

We all gave up. *Ernest Draggle! Ernest Draggle, the very author who had started the whole thing in the first place. Draggle's publishers said that it was a pseudonym for an author who wanted to keep his

identity secret, as he had penned rather a racy series of novels, so they couldn't possibly reveal who it was. My father was not to be thwarted and put a private detective on the hunt. It took the sleuth four months to discover who it was. And

guess who it was?" We hazarded guesses. Dennis Wheatley? Barbara Cartland? James Hadley Chase? Winston Churchill?

"No, none of those. It was my mother! All those years Lady Callway had been writing near-the-knuckle novels and he had never known! She owned up, but she refused to sign his Who's Who. She said that Ernest was a very private person who would never agree to such a thing. Heartbroken at being so close to a complete signed copy of Who's Who, my father went into a decline from which he never

recovered." Lord Callway slid into a peaceful slumber to signify that his tale was now over. A few days later I humped into his younger brother, Sir Dudley Hardstaff, and asked him to verify the story, but he said that there was not a word of truth in it.

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The end of Empire, the beginning of modern Britain

Tt is fatuous for journalists and even historians to attempt a Linal audit on the British Empire. A profit and loss account on two centuries' worth of so many million lives, and wars, technological advances and political subjection is beyond mortal scope. Ten thousand wise historians. with a million researchers, in the world's biggest library and with the world's fastest computer, would not be

What we know is that the British Empire has been one of the dominant forces of the modern world, changing more lives than fascism, Soviet Communism or the revival of Islam. Inventors from Lancashire and Scotland, and the thinking of Adam Smith, Wesley, and the aristocratic revolutionaries of 1688 have had a higger influence on today's world than

One cannot begin to specu-late about what sort of places India. Africa, Australia, North America or many other stretches of the world would he had there been no Imperial Britain. As for the mother country", with its global language, its many races, its awkward Euro-scepticism and its sprawling, now-declining imperial cities, Britain itself seems still half-stunned by the experience of so quickly gaining and

then losing the empire. This has, in short, been one heck of a happening - wbat Ian Jack has described recently as, "a grand, endlessly interesting thing to bave happened to a small and unlikely country". And what about us, the chil-

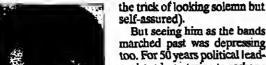
dren and grandchildren of the unlikely ones? Where are we left now the whole thing has finished? Is it a scattering of boarded-up Mafeking Strects, and a useful base-camp for Microsoft, and that's it? Will the Scots and the English still ruh along under one national flag?

The answers are no, and yes, respectively, though some think, and bave always thought, that the end of Empire means the end of Great Britain - that the two were the same. The archetypal Imperialist politician, Joseph Chamberlain, spoke for millions when he said, early on in the century, that the identity of England (sic) had become identical to that of the Empire: "England without an empire! Can you conceive it? England in that case would not be the England we love ... It would no longer be multi-cultural openness. We have to remem-u power, if not supreme, at all events of the ber that the Empire was finally smashed not greatest influence, generally well-exercised, on the civilisation and the peace of the world. It would be a fifth-rate nation ..

We have been getting used to losing that role and slipping down the ratings for half a century. Though we have not hroken up, loss and nostalgia have become central to state-occasion Britain. It was entirely natural, of course, that they dominated yesterday's emotion-sodden farewell to Hong Kong. But loss and nostalgia can be found in endless ways, large and small, in the Beaten Retreats, tattoos, commemorative services, honours lists. Oueen's hroadcasts and so on that surround national politics.

I was of the last generation to learn Imperial history of the old school - Clive, Nelson, Churchill - and grew up with a hazy false memory, learned from family photos, of Another Britain, a lost place of pith helmets, firm jawlines, crisp naval uniforms. And there it was again on that Hong Kong parade ground, the Britain whose most characteristic tune isn't Rule Britannia" hut a trembling Last Post.

Enough! We have, as a country, come close to drowning ourselves in all that. It was right that Tony Blair went to Hong Kong tlooking grim and uneasy; he hasn't yet got



Andrew

Marr

The symbols

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Imperial

insignia,

kilts and

Gurkhas

But seeing him as the bands

marched past was depressing too. For 50 years political leaders have been trying to reshape a national purpose, and for 50 years they have been failing. Much of the rest of the country has got on with it, in culture and business, but politics has lagged far behind, so that Britain today seems a disjointed place, polarised between Post-Modernism and post-imperialism, with too little in between.

So enough Last Posts and folded Union Flags. Enough Britannia" and enough weary self-deprecation from the Prince of Wales. We should not leave Hong Kong with too much regret. The critics of Chris Patten's Hong Kong policy are mostly fatuous. We had to give the colony up. However belat-edly, it was also right to assert the kind of politics we believe

works best everywhere.
That is not a hopeless cause. The symbols of our departure include the backward-looking Imperial insignia, kilts and Gurkhas. The incoming People's Liberation Army may seem, by contrast, the wave of the future, representatives of a growing superpower. But things are not so simple. It is the domestic values of the departing ex-colonial power - liberalism, free speech, the rule of law which are in the global ascendant, and the authoritarian, pithless post-Marxism of the ageing Peking elite which is in retreat.

Whatever happens in the next few months and years, Hong Kong will bury them, not the other way about. Peking, as the Chinese capital, is applauding the return of a part of China. But Peking, as a citadel of anti-

a future which will quite soon destroy it. So we need less Imperial nostalgia and a lit-tle more optimism back bome. Let us have more, please, of the inclusive, liberal group of islands that we have it in us to become, and which it is Blair's job to help shape through the millennlum. More, please, of a modern, reformed democracy, with a Bill of Rights and an adult relationship to its European partners. More of the unapologetically ethical and moderately "green" voice of Robin Cook's Foreign Office. More, in short, of a plausible national future, which means liberalism, democracy and by the Hong Kong treaty, but in the global war against fascism half a century before. And though that was a great cause to die for (has

democratic and illiberal politics, is applauding

helped to achieve. Because of the Empire, the UK is now an ethnically diverse union of countries with a global language - more like a small America, in some ways, than like France. Yet because of the Empire, we are also still a hierarchical, cod-medieval country with a terrible capacity

any empire heen destroyed as usefully?), we

still haven't fully caught up with the victory we

for lacrymose nostalgia. Now we must choose.

Of course, with others, we should do our duty in helping to keep an eye on Hong Kong. But in a broader sense, we must stop looking hack, either guiltily or sentimentally. A great hreak of this kind has happened before, at least to England. For decades, late-medieval London was in trauma at the loss of France remember Calais, engraved on Mary Tudor's heart? But what followed was a great outpouring of national energy, a liberation, and the shift to early-modern Britain. Perhaps Hong Kong is the Calais of our times.

It is time to move on. Let this be the last Last

A raw look at our cultural landscape



Julian Cooper (left) and Terry Gifford with "Paris, Texas", in which TV culture meets the Lake District

Blanc have put paid, for the present at least to an English artist's hopes of pushing plein-air painting in oils to new limits. Instead of capturing the spirit of the notorious Brenva face on his 5ft square canvas, Julian Cooper was confined to a high mountain but for five days with six morose Ger-

man soldiers for company.

The 50-year-old Cumhrian ventured out once last week, but the soft snow was waist deep, far too dangerous conditions for attempting a climb to his planned belvedere at 3,500 metres. At the but he worked on smaller oils, until the furnes from the turps almost choked him in his unventilated alpine

Cooper's technique, developed on mountain painting trips to Peru and the Scottish Highlands, is to climb with his studio in a ski-bag. For an easel, he anchors a frame made of tent poles to boulders or snow "bollards". A canvas is bulldog-clipped to the frame and he begins to paint with yard-long hrushes, returning day after day to work on the picture, trying to translate the anima within the rock and ice through his muscular strokes.

The results can he as

uncomfortable for the viewer as conditions can he for Cooper. Tension between man recurrent theme. On Mt Blanc, be had hoped to paint the skiers who traverse the high glaciers in summer, almost ohlivious of the grandour of the natural playground. "In a way, we are all clinically mad. We are perched on this very fragile environment called Earth and yet we carry blithely on debasing it.

merely sturdy providers of facts on maritime flows and public

announcements: they are

something diverting to read

why women

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automatically

Julian Cooper's powerful paintings subvert the traditions of his celebrated family and challenge the way we look at nature, says Stephen Goodwin

We are sawing off the branch we are sitting on," he says. Cooper recoils from the notion of himself as an environmental evangelist. However, the label could be applied, with protest, to his friend and collaborator Terry Gifford, a poet and senior lecturer in English at Bretton Hall College, Leeds University. Gifford believes that, though we are an urbanised society, we still crave contact with nature to "touch base and get a fix on the seasons".

Why else do 250,000 people travel by car to the Lake District on a summer weekend? Why do we cultivate window boxes? Why does the gritty Labour veteran Dennis Skinner watch when the hlossom appears on a particular magnolia tree by the Serpentine in Hyde Park and when the leaves fall? Because we are part of it. Perplexing hrowsers at the Old Court House Gallery in Cooper's home town of

Amhleside is a 4ft 6in by 6ft oil on paper showing an auburnhaired woman on a halcony watching television. On the screen are the skyscrapers of Houston - a frame from the film Paris, Texas - while hrooding in the dusk background is and the rest of nature is a a craggy-topped fell and gathcring storm clouds. The bal-cony is Cooper's own. So, in a sense, is the crag, Loughrigg, which lours in several of his works. The painting, entitled Paris, Texas, expresses his belief that the human race, or at least the Westernised part of it. is "poised between two worlds". Television even provides our experience of nature,

while outside the real thing lies ignored or used as a consumerist accessory.

The scion of painters, Julian Cooper has been a rebel, trying to shake off the stylistic baggage of his father and grandfather. The soft-hued watercolours produced by his father, William Heaton Cooper, bave probably proved more potent in fixing an image of the Lake District in many minds than the sight of the green fell-sides themselves. But the primordial rock of Julian's canvases bears scant similarity to these tourist-friendly, highly saleable landscapes. An abstractionist at Goldsmith's College, London, before moving on to large-scale figure painting, the young Cooper also dropped "Heaton" from his professional name. He is, however, a director of the family paintings and

prints studio in Grasmere. Each Whitsun, Cooper and and Gifford head for the Scottish Highlands together, camp for a few days in a corrie, climb a route of not too stremuous grade, and practise their respective crafts. The poet has the easier task and often finds himself writing about his companion -"the artist's fingers feeling his way up the Earth's hard core" - exploring the form of the rock he will try to paint. Last month their route was Hanging Dyke, on the south side of Ben Macdui in the Cairngorms. Away from the popular trails, they were the only people in its vicinity. Without going solo, ropcless and tentless it is about as raw a contact with nature as

Britain offers. For Cooper, the excursions

can be a hit fraught. Not only

has the weather ruined his

efforts - a 6ft by 5ft canvas of Beinn Lair was physically washed away - but, unlike the poet, he is not a regular climber. "f experience real fear, particularly beforehand," he says. The rational part of him says it is "mad" to carry on in his fifties, hut of course he will. Ask the painter and poet if they come back with any message from these "sbamanic" journeys to the mountains and

diffidence sets in. First, they go for the sheet enjoyment of place and each other's company and craft. But there is, too, a getting close to the earth and a nonhubristic sense of man's place in things that comes through in . their work. "We certainly don't return with a didactic message." says Gifford. "All we can do is contribute another little shift of sensibilities in our culture. If we were to start declaiming, we would cease to be artists and got stars like this in Liverpool?" become politicians."

Gifford's crusade as an aca-

escapism of the "Georgian poets" of the early 20th century - those who, like WH Davies, urged us to find "time to stand and stare" at squirrels hiding their nuts. Man was simply an idle observer of nature, not a part of it. The parallel between WH Davies's pastoralism and the comfortable landscapes of WH Cooper at his most banal is bard to miss.

Travelling home across France yesterday, Julian Cooper was able to reflect ruefully on the powerful natural forces which late 20th century society knows mainly through a TV screen. Two weeks and 2,000 miles of driving wasted and artistic endeavour frustrated. He and Gifford will continue in their gentle way to open minds, but perhaps there is no substitute for raw experience.

Gifford tells a story about a group from a Liverpool combensive on a course in the Yorkshire Dales. On the first night, Gifford took the sixth-formers for a walk and got them to gaze at the stars. After two minutes of lying on their backs in

Terry Gifford is co-author of The demic is to rescue nature poetry
from the sentimentality and
Poetry (Redbeck Press, £6.95).

The first-person singular woman

The study of newspaper readership published yesterday by Women in Journalism certainly produced a few whopping non-surprises. The idea that men are avid for news about sports and cars. while women go more for fashion and health, will hardly make anyone gulp. Nor (alas) will the suggestion that women offer a warmer and more "humanising" view of the world than the icy, neutral, inhuman gaze that characterises male journalism - that is no more than a well-worn

But if the survey only con-firmed that these cheerless are handed; another is that they are a relatively cheap way to fill the expanding sections. marketing caricatures (girls like human-interest weepies: boys like engines and stock market data) still dominate many people's thinking, it also threw up one intriguing suggestion. Women's key contrihution to the language of the contemporary newspaper, it found, lay in the use of the first person. Instead of the frosty post of objectivity - a patriarchal gimmick, at best -women were creating a space for the subjective voice, for that single, once-redundant letter: I.

fn one sense, it seems insulting to cite the I-word as women's higgest gift to modern insurnalism: the truth is, they read only what relates to their lishing surrounded by quicker,

war. And not before time. So the bigger question is whether women's fluency in the firstperson is something that they should, on principle be celebrating. It can easily sound, if you see such writing merely as a kind of egocentric waffling, like a slur. On most newspapers what-1-did-at-the-weckend lifestyle columns are quite soft and junior slots, at best light relief: one of the reason women do so much of it is that those are the assignments they are handed; another is that they are a relatively cheap way

So women get to write larkishly about the queue at Tesco while their tough male colleagues are llown on hazardous assignments overseas, where they hang around in the drizzle for hours waiting for a press officer to read a prepared statement – a man's job if ever there was one. One might have expected from Women in Journalism a strongish tendency to resent rather than celchrate the pigeon-holing tendency to deploy women chiefly in homen hearth areas of the newspaper. Possibly the saddest

assumption the survey fails to

are at last entering into all own lives. That is a marketing areas: news, finance, law, even idea opposed to the old women alike - might be interested to read about something beyond themselves and new. On the other hand, it ourdoes

tainly does seem to be the casc women are on with the firstperson pronoun than men. All of our newspapers give to women to write ("please be as personal as you like") boyfriends, and Robert Winder is above all an their habies,

their jobs, their diets, their illnesses, their pleasures and their sorrows. As with any genre, it produces works that are both hrilliant and, um, less than brilliant. Some writers manage to make personal life - so long ignored

ironic word. Perhaps that is because a generation of women has come of age that political - politics isn't just what President Clinton told Tony Blair last night: it's what the dentist said in the waiting hy newspapers - seem properly room last week, or what the intriguing and profound. Othtwins got up to on the Underers inevitably fail. Both, ground. Women are perhaps though, are participating in an quicker to see what happens to emphatic change in the whole question is that people wish to enterprise of newspaper pub-

shinier news machines, modern mar of many women's magapapers aspire to being daily zines has tutored a large num-magazines. They are no longer ber of writers in the ways of ber of writers in the ways of self-examination - however inventive.

It remains hard, though, to see the first person as a distinctly feminine voice. There is There are a larger trend towards the first other reasons person in both women and men, based on the popular perception that our own is the only voice we can really trust. Ours is the Freudian century we are pretty sure that the meaning of life lies, if anywhere, within: we are what we feel, not what we know or can find out. And the first person is in any case a very natural form: it is the voice of everyday life, the one we use in conversation and in letters, in interviews and on the phone.

It is a commonplace among publishers these days that memoirs are just as saleable (if not more so) than fiction: they believes the personal to he are direct, personal and seem candid compared to the tricky evasions of most novelists. It is easy enough to carp at this, as if it were driven by something like a cult of authenticity, and it is indeed true that in horrowing so many of the blurry devices of fiction, the memoir them as emblematic of shigger risks becoming just as impressional picture. And the whole sionistic and unbelievable as study of mankind, as the old unbelievable-but-true gram- any novel. But the first person saying goes, is me.

address. Ironically, it is one that the narrators of novels have borrowed for centuries.

movement towards the first person has a long history: it is at least 200 years old. The first great autohiographer, Rousseau, insisted in the opening sentence of his amazing Confessions that his task - selfrevelation - had no precedent and would have no imitator. He was certainly wrong on the latter point. Within a few years, Wordsworth was tracing the formation of a poetic sensibility through childhood recollections, and the entire Romantic movement went on to trumpet the virtues of selfinquiry. In our century, a memoir is one of the most endearing aspects of any worthwhile literary career: Joyce, Proust. Nabokov, Virginia Woolf, Mary McCarthy, Doris Lessing

. the list is a long one. The modern twist is that you no longer need to be famous, or even old to write about yourself. One might have thought that satire such as this newspaper's own Bridget Jones might be letting some of the air out of the tyres of self-worship.



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Sintaro Katsu

Sintaro Katsu was an outrageously individualistic actor who became a living legend playing a hlind master swordsman, Zatoichi. "Katsu-shin". as he was affectionately known. was adored by millions, not only in Japan but all over South East Asia, where his dazzlingly original sword-fight seepics of Hong Kong and Taiwan,

He was the second son of a master of nagauta, "long song" accompanied by shamisen, often used as dance accompaniment in kabuki. He began by teaching nagautn and aged 17 performed it in kabuki. When with his father and older hrother he joined the Azuma Kabuki tour of America, the the jidni-geki (period) genre a shamisen players were relegated to steerage, while the actors all had first class cabins. That example of social discrimination rankled and made Shintaro determined to be an actor, too.

As soon as he returned to Japan, be joined the Daiei Movie Company, beginning with a small part in the 1954 Hana no Byakkotai ("White Tiger Brigade"). He had to wait until 1960 to take his first starring role in Shiranui Kengyo, the story of Shiranui, a hlind court musician, and a villainous character with redeeming qualities, a new type of tough hero. mura, daughter of the cele-brated kabuki star Ganjuro Nakamura, appeared with him. In 1961 he cashed in on this burly, gruff image as Asakichi in Tokuzo Tanaka's Akumyo

("The Rogue"). Against stiff opposition from tions the marriage endured, surviving many vicissitudes

together in a stage play in the year before Katsu's death. Katsu-shin's most glorious

period began in 1962 with the first Zatoichi movie, Zatoichi Monogarari ("The Story of Blind Zatoichi"), directed by Kenji Misumi. This larger-thanlife character was based on just quences influenced kung fu a few lines from an essay by Kan. Shimozawa, a sketch of an itincrant hlind masseur who was also a gambler and a brilliant swordsman – a lovable creature despite his evil propensities. Akira Kurosawa's Yojimbo (1961) and Sanjuro (1962) had utterly transformed the insipidly and mechanically performed cinematic sword fights, giving new life with sequences of en-thralling realism. Zatoichi mov-ies followed that trend, and were highly successful, as was the theme song, sung by Katsu-shin. In 1965, Katsu appeared in

Yasuzo Masumura's Heitai Yakuza ("Gangster Soldier"), which extended his range considerably. Two years later, he founded his own Katsu Productions, and became a direc-tor with *Kaoyaku* ("The Big Boss") in 1971. In 1972, he di-rected his brother Tomisaburo Wakayama in Kozure Ookami ("Wolf Man and Baby"), the first in a brutally realistic swordfight series later taken over by Kenju Misumi. (When the second episode, Babycart Massacre, was recently shown in the wonderful three-month-long Festival of Japanese Film in Paris, children under 12 were not admitted.)

Zatoichi became a television Ganjuro, he married Tamao in series made by Katsu's pro-1962, and against all expecta- duction company. But the Japanese movie industry was already on the decline, and Katthrough the wifely wisdom of su began to encounter all kinds Tamao, who continued her act-



eous: Katsu strikes out in The Great Wal

personal. He was arrested in 1978 for possession of opium. The attitude of the Japanese public and authorities towards drug addicts is very severe, but Katsu won people's sympathy by his touching innocence. He had naïvely believed he was doing no wrong by just carrying opium. His ingenuous nature had given him the public image of a sort rested at the airport in Hawaii

Next year, Kurosawa chose him for the leading role in his great historical epic Kagemusha. But the director was furious when Katsu-shin started shooting his own scenes, and sacked him, saying: "There is no need for two directors on this movie." The part was given to Tatsuya Nakadai

of holy fool.

In 1987 Katsu-shin was in-

volved in another scandal when He, too, was on the decline he was a guest at a hig yakuza celebration. Then in 1988, after but he never lost his enthusiasm for acting and singing, and last year appeared on stage with his wife in Meoto Zenzai ("A Well-Matched Couple"). He refused to be operated for the cancer that a long hiatus, he was directing what was to be the last Zatoichi film, and in the sword-fights real swords were used, because imhad attacked his hypopharynx, itation weapons did not make an authentic sound. His son saying: "If I can't produce my struck an opponent's jugular voice, my production company vein, and the actor died. will lose its best asset. An actor's voice is his whole life," Then Katsu in 1990 was ar-

He was a great artist, a great individual, and, alas, the last of for bringing marijuana and co-caine from Japan for purely the old jidai-geki sword-fight personal use. Again his bewil-derment was disauming. He had been very amateurishly trans-

Toshio Okumura (Shintaro Katsu), actor: born Tokyo 29 November 1931; married 1962 Tamao Nakamura (one son, one daughter); died Kashiwa, Japan 21 June 1997.

Rhonda Baker

Rhonda Baker had always been a rising star in the firmament of entertainment law, but the publication in 1995 of her book Media Law: a user's guide for film and programme makers made her more widely known to the international film and television production community as a friend and guide to those who, while well versed in the arts of shooting takes and setting up, were less acquainted with the complexities of the documentation required to achieve funding and production. Baker's book encouraged them to get some of the way by themselves. Born in 1959 in north Lon-

don. Rhonda Baker was fiercely loyal to her family and her roots. Her striking good looks, with a pale complexion and dark hair, made it difficult to ignore her Irish antecedents. Her flashes of born wit and keen readiness to participate (to the full) in any good time going, further tokens of these, were sometimes mixed with the more melancholy side to ber Celtic background.

Her seemingly effortless rise in her profession started with a scholarship to the North London Collegiate School in Edg-ware, a school distinguished by its academic prowess and devotion to hard work; she achieved both. She had an msatiable interest in the Hollywood greats (Bette Davis was an especial role model) and in drama. But law, with its comhination of hard intellect and practical application, appealed to Baker, and in 1977 she gained an exhibition to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, to read under the aegis of John Collier.

Her tutor's respect for her abilities was confirmed by the prizes she subsequently car-ried away in her Bar finals. But the Bar, despite the offer of a tenancy, and however much its social habits and intellectual camaraderie appealed to ber, was not an opportune place for a single young woman struggling for financial independence. As she said, "I-loved being at the

Bar, but I couldn't afford the

She applied for a position to firm of solicitors, Dentoo Hall, well-known internationally for its media practice, with the aim of combining her legal skills with her knowledge and love of the media. She thrived: as a solicitor and was soon respected for her fearless views on any given subject, professional or otherwise; her irreverence about the self-importance that distinguishes some legal practitioners; and the confinuing drive for perfection in her work.

In 1988 she moved with col-leagues to S.J. Berwin & Co, to establish the firm's media and communications practice. In 1990 the practice recognised her talents by making her a partner at the precocious age of 30. In the following two years, Rhon-da Baker gained friends and lanrels for her work in the film and television world; no query was too slight, no legal analysis was too complex, no document too lengthy for her to deal with, and with clarity, speed and remarkably mature judgement. But behind the veneer of the professional young woman there remained a warm and sympathetic personality, that always sought to help a friend or colleague in any kind of

difficulty. In November 1992, however, a routine visit to ber doctor aroused suspicions of breast cancer. After her recovery from



the necessary operation, she conceived the notion of writing a handbook combining some legal and practical wisdom for the struggling independent pro-ducer, a hreed whose numbers had been greatly increased by the advent of Channel Four Television and the independent quota requirements of the new Broadcasting Act. In a world where media as business was becoming more important. her nim was to make the production community more

The publication launch par ty of Media Law: a user's guide for film and programme makers in 1995 was held on the eve of her return to hospital for more treatment. The book became a word-of-mouth success with producers, and legal practi-tioners. The first edition has since sold out, but a second

edition is promised. Rhonda Baker's illness did not diminish ber enthusiasms for music, painting, dressmaking, and, above all, writing. She completed one novel and numerous short stories; another draft novel has been discovered. A management manual for S.J. Berwin & Co, completed in the final year of ber illness. contains characteristically wry practice for solicitors, ranging from dress codes to telephone

manners. She was ably assisted in all her endeavours hy her two hlack pugs, George and Stanicy, much loved (it is rumoured) because they were the only more strong-minded than the ir

Nigel Palmer

Rhonda Elizabeth Baker, solicitor and writer; born Bushey, Hertfordshire 11 July 1959; called to the Bar Middle Temple 1982: barrister-at-law 1982-84; assistant and solicitor, Denton Hall 1984-88: partner and consultant, S.J. Berwin & Co 1990-97; married 1987 Simon Laycock; died London 25 June 1997.

Kenneth Neate



Fifty years ago, on 14 January 1947, the fledgling Covent Garden Opera Company (later to become the Royal Opera), gave its first performance. The opera was Carmen and Don José was sung by the Australian tenor

lasted about six months, Neate up more than 150 perforsang Don José 21 times; he mances, mainly in Germany also sang 17 performances of and Austria, but also in Aus-Tamino in The Magic Flute everything in those days was sung in English - and 12 of the Italian Singer in Der Rosenkavulier. Neate had a strong, lyric tenor voice and, for the four seasons he sang with the com-pany, he remained with the repertory.

He returned to Covent Garden on a famous occasion in 1959 when he took over at short notice from an ailing

tenor as Edgardo in Lucia di Lammermoor, with Joan Sutherland as Lucia. By then Neate was already singing much beavier roles, such as Florestan in Fidelio, Lohengrin and, the part that became his cheval de Kenneth Neate. bataille, Tannhäuser. During During the first season, which the next dozen years, he clocked tralia. Later he sang Tristan a number of times.

porting his stash in his under-

pants, easily detected by sniffer

dogs, and when charged he

made the typical reply; "I shall

never wear underpants again!"

Kenneth Neate was born in Cessnock, New South Wales, in 1914. He studied singing at the University of Melhourne and loured with an amaleur company in Madama Butterfly and Carmen. On the advice of John Brownlee, the famous Australian haritone, he went to New York to study with Emilio de Gogorza and Elisabeth

Bruno Walter, and he was engaged to understudy Chester Kallman, who was singing Tamino at the Metropolitan in 1941. Neate then joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and, after he was invalided out, sang. for the troops.

At the end of the Second

World War, he came to London, where David Webster and Karl Rankl were auditioning singers for the Covent Garden Opera Company, and was immediately engaged. After Don José, Tamino and the Italian Singer during the first season, he sang the Duke in Rigoletto, Alfredo in La Traviata, Rodolfo in La Bohème and Pinkerton in Madama Butterfly. He rapidly gained stage experience, and by the time he left the company

Schumann. His voice came to had become an excellent actor the notice of the conductor as well as a fine singer. He loured Anstralia with the J.C. Williamson Company, be sang in Italy and Paris, and, in May 1956 at Bordeaux, sang the title-role in the first-performance of Henri Tomasi's Samplem Corso, which was reneated at the Holland Festival in June the same year.

Neate began his attack on the heavier German repertory with Florestan in Fidelio at Karlsruhe in 1958. After his muchacclaimed return to Covent Garden in 1959 for Lucia di Lammermoor, in which he was a splendid partner for Joan Sutherland - his height was particularly appreciated by the prima donna - be sang Gounod's Faust for the Dublin Grand Opera, and returned to Karlsruhe for Tannhäuser and Lo-

hengrin. In 1960 he toured Australia with the Elizabetban Theatre Trust, and the following year was engaged at the New York City Opera, where he sang Radames in Aida, Don Jose, Stravinsky's Oedipus Rex, and created Judge Danforth in Robert Ward's The Crucible, an opera based on Arthur Miller's

play.

Neate made an excellent Loge in Das Rheingold at Bayreuth in 1963, and continued to sing Tannhauser, in Hagen, Mulhouse, Bucharest, Adelaide Sydney and Innsbruck, where he achieved his 150th performance during the 1969/70 season. Meanwhile he had taken up another Wagner role - Tristan, After singing Tristan at Coblenz in October 1966, at the end of December he sang the role in Stockholm, with

Birgit Nilsson at Isolde and Kerslin Meyer as Brangaene. The opera, with the same cast. was taken by the Royal Swedish Opera to Montreal for Expo 67, and the tenor later sang Tristan in Mannheim and Budapest. After a final tour of Australia

in 1970, when he appeared as Florestan, Neate returned to looshrock, where he sang Aggisthus in Elektra in 1974, and the title-role of Verdi's Otello in 1975. He was then 61 years of age, but his interpretation of Otello was highly praised, both vocally and dramatically. After his retirement he taught singing in Munich.

Kenneth Neate, tenor. born Cessnock, New South Wales 28 July 1914; married Gentrude Vollath: died Munich 26 June 1997.

George Fenneman

"There never was a comedian who was any good unless he had a good straight man," wrote Groucho Marx in 1976, "And George was straight on all four

A square was just one of the many things Groucho called his straight man during their long association: tall, handsome and elegant. George Fenneman bore the Marxian wisecracks with gentlemanly dignity for 14 years on the high-rated comedy quiz You Ber Your Life. Starting on radio in 1947 and transferring to television in 1950, the show was

less a quiz than a vehicle for Groucho's wit. with Fenneman reading the commercials, introducing the contestants and working out the scores.

Until the series ended in 1961. Marx subjected his foil to a relentless stream of politically incorrect Chinese laundry jokes, all because he happened to have been born in Peking. "My father was in Import-Export, Fenneman told the hiographer Hector Arce. "He and my mother'd been married for 10 years. I guess they didn't expect any children, and I'm an only child."

He was nine months old when his parents moved to San Francisco, where he grew up. In 1942 he graduated from San Francisco State College with a de-gree in speech and drama, and took a job as an announcer with a local radio station. After the Second World War, during which he worked as a broadcast correspondent for the US Office of Information, Fenneman moved to Los Angeles. In 1949 Jack Webb, who had

worked with Fenneman on wartime broadcasts, reached radio stardom in Pat Novak, For

ematician. 1646; George Sand

Hire, a thriller series set in San Francisco. Fenneman announced the show, and was used again in that capacity when Webh created the classic radio series Drugnet (also 1949). Fenneman's other radio assignments of the early 1950s included announcing the western series Gunsmoke, and playing Buzz, a comical cargo pilot, in Fly Anything, an adventure scries starring the singer Dick Havmes.

Fenneman made his film debut in the cult movie The Thing from Another World (1951).

which concerned a group of air force men and scientists at the mercy of a bloodthirsty extraterrestrial. "I played Dr Redding, one of the scientists," he recalled, "And it took me 26 takes to deliver my hig speech. End of movie career." (Actually, he did make other films, including How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, 1966, and Once You Kiss a Stranger, 1969.)

On television Fenneman hosted his own quiz show. Anyhody Can Play (1958), and Your Furny, Francy Films (1963), one of the first series to feature am- to be working with a legend,"

ateur home movies. He also announced The Donny and Marie Show, The Jim Nabors Show, The Life of Riley and the television version of Dragnet. In 1993, for an edition of The Simpsons that spoofed Dragnet, Fenneman's nearly unchanged voice spoke the muchparodied words: "Only the names have been changed to protect the innocent.

But it is as Groucho Marx's straight man that he will be best remembered. "I can't impress on you too much what it meant

Fenneman told Hector Arce. "I was 30 years old and working with this man who was 60 at the time, who'd been the higgest star of all the media." His association with Groucho didn't end with the closure of their quiz show; he visited him often: in the last year of Mark's life the 87-year-old comedian was so en-feebled that, before leaving. Fenneman had to walk him to

hìs bed in a hear hug. "Fenneman," said Groucho lousy dancer."



Photograph: Corbis-Bettmann/UPI

George Fenneman, actor: born faintly, "you always were a Peking 10 November 1919; married (one son, two daughters); Dick Vosburgh died Los Angeles 29 May 1997.

Births. Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS FTTZGIBBON: To Camilla and Francis, on 24 June 1997, a wm. Sam.

DEATHS

GUIREY: Selvia, on 27 June 1997, much leved mother of Selima, Kadar and Sogar, grandmother of Chings and Taja, died pescelulle at home. HADEN: Philip. At home, 19 June. in his \$2nd year. Dear husband of Jessien, lowing lather of Mark, Kent, Bruce, Paul and the late Clare and Sandra; grandfalhet of Kirsten Anika: dearly loved brother of Mary Pert. Donations may be made to V.O.N. Palliative Care. 737 Ar-Imeton Park Place, Kingdon, Omario. Canada, K7M 8M8.

Announcements for BIRTHS, MAR-RIAGES & OEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The In-dependent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL, telephoned to 17 (17) 2012 or fract to 2171-293 2010, and are charged at \$6.50 a line | VAT ex-tral, OTHER Gazette hanouncements must be submitted in writing and are

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Birthdays

The Princess of Wales, 36: Mr Dan Aykroyd, actor, 45: Sir Alan Camp-bell, former diplomat, 78: Miss Leslie Caron, actress, 66: Mr Wayne David, MEP, 40: Miss Olivia de Havilland. ietress, 81; Mr Trevor Eve, actor. 46; Lady Faulknet of Downpatrick, for-met Governor for Northern Ireland, BBC, 72: Sir Colin Figures, former Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Office, 72: Lord Gisbotough, Lieu-tenant of North Yorkshire, 70: Mr John Gould, composer and musical comedian, 56; Li-Cot Sir Jahn Hugo, former Gentleman Usher to the Queen, 98; Viscount Leverhulme, former Lord-Lieutenant of Chester. 82; Mr Carl Lewis, athlete, 36; Sir Kenneth Lewis, former MP, 81; Miss Jean Marsh, actress, 63; General Sir Thomas Pearson, former Commander in-Chief, Allied Forces, Northern Europe, 87: Mr Sydney Pollack, film director, 63; Mt Tom Robinson, musician, 47; Miss Joan Sadler, former Principal, Cheltenhan Ladies' College, 70; The Very Rev Alan Webster, former Dean of St Paul's, 79; Mr Malcolm Wiels MP, 50.

Anniversaries Births: Baton Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz, philosopher and math-

We standow attends the 1st and Summer Cleans Ball. Hall at Hood Londow Wi, Princers Namester, Press. And, attends a pertor tomer by the Road Balls, the Bettom hant formil Balls on much local Balls below do the Roy of the color of the Balls School William Standowski the Standowski and the attend of the Anti-Color of the Color of the Balls of Globustate studies of the Standowski Stand

(Amandine-Aurore Lucile, Baronne Dudevant), novelist, 1804; Charles Laughton, actor, 1899; Amy Johnson avistor, 1913. Deaths: Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of Uncle Tom's Cabin. 1890: Erik Alfred Lestic Satie in, 1890; Erik Alfred Lestic Satie (Eric Satie), composer, 1925; Juan Domingo Perón, Argentine presi-dent, 1974. On this day: Sir Thomas More was put on trial, 1535; ad-dressing the Linnean Society, Charles Darwin announced his theory of evolution, 1858; Queen Victoria un-veiled the Albert Memorial in London, 1872: lersey was occupied by German forces, 1940; the Prince of Wales's Investiture was held at Caemaryon Castle, 1969, Today is the Feast Day of Saints Aaron and Julius, St Carilephus or Calais, St Eparchius nr Cybard, St Gall nf Clermont, St Oliver Plunket, St Ser-

> of Mant d'Or. Lectures

National Gallery: Richard Stemp. Precious Objects (i): Moretto da Brescia", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Sally Dormet, "Unveiling the New Testament: typology in medicyal

vanus or Serf. S1 Shenute, S1 Sime

on Salus and St Thierry or Theodoric

Changing of the Guard

Athletics drug ban rules not subject to Community law

Federation and anor; Chancery Division (Mr Justice Lightman)

Rules of the International Amateur Athletics Federatinn which were designed to ban cheating by taking drugs were rules which merely regulated the sporting conduct of athletes, and were not therefore subject to European Community law, which was applicable to sport nnly insofar as it constituted an

economic activity.

Mr Justice Lightman dismissed the plaintiff's challenge to the refusal by the International Amaleur Athletics Federation ("the IAAF") to reinstate him before the completion of a four-year ban from nthletic competitions imposed for the use of anabolic steroids. The ban had been imposed on the plaintiff, an amateur athlete and a member of the first defendant, the British Athletic Federation ("the BAF"), on 22

October 1994. The plaintiff challenged the lawfulness of the IAAF's refusal. Remission of a ban had

arhletes in a similar position,

but whose national athletic associations limited the lawful pe-Rule 60(2)(a) provided that an athlete who committed a ried of any such ban to two years by their local laws. The plaintiff contended (a) that the IAAF could not law-

fully distinguish his application from those other applications on the ground that the fouryear ban was lawful under his local law; and (h) that the refusal of his application consti-tuted discrimination against him which was unlawful under the Treaty of Rome. The IAAF challenged that contention. The BAF adopted a neutral stance. expiration of that period. Stuart Cakebread (Janes) for the utff; Adam Lewis (Farrer & Ca) for the BAF; Robert Howe (Herbert

Smith) for the LLAF. Mr Justice Lightman said that as members of the LAAF the various national governing bodies (including the BAF) were required inter nlia to adopt provisions in their constitutions mirroring the IAAF's been granted to a number of rules in particular so far as they the EU.

LAW REPORT 1 July 1997

were designed to control drug abuse. The BAF had adopted

doping offence involving, in particular, the taking of an anabolic steroid would be incligible on a first offence for a minimum of four years to take part in competitions held under the IAAF's rules or the domestic rules of its members. Rule 60(8) provided, however, that in exceptional circumstances an athlete might apply to the Council of the IAAF for reinstatement before the

The first issue to be decided was whether Articles 59 to 66 of the Treaty of Rome had any application to the operation of rule 60. Article 6 of the Treaty stated that discrimination on grounds of nationality was prohibited; and Articles 59 to 66 prohibited such discrimination in the freedom to provide services for remuneration within

The plaintiff contended that the four-year ban imposed an

him was an interference with his freedom to earn his living as an athlete within the EU. Community law was applicable to sport only insofar as it constituted an economic activity. The critical question raised in the present case was whether the drug control provisions of the rules and particularly the provisions for sanction in case of a drug offence. constituted an exclusively sporting rule.

Rules 55 to 61 appeared mercly to regulate the sporting conduct of participants in athletics. They were designed to ban cheating by taking drugs and thus secure a level playing field for all participants in the sport. The imposition of penalties for cheating was essential if the rules against it were to be

The imposition of the sanction might of necessity have serious economic consequences for those who breached the

cidental. A rule designed to regulate the sporting conduct of participants did not cease to be such a rule because it did not allow those who broke it to earn remuneration by participating in the sport for what was, by common consent, an appropriate period.

In view of that decision it was not necessary to decide whether the operation by the IAAF of rule 60(8) to reinstate athletes whose local rules limited the period of a ban to two vears of itself constituted uniustifiable discrimination on grounds of nationality in the sense prohibited under Articles 6 and 59 to 66 of the Treaty. The matter would, however, be

dealt with briefly.
The policy which sought only to accommodate rule 60-20 diffences in national law was not discriminatory; it merely ensured that the LAAF and the application of rule 60 kept within the various national

The action was accordingly

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

business & city

£1.1bn jump in consumer borrowing fuels boom fears

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

The need to put the brakes on consumer spending was highlighted by figures yesterday showing a £1.1bn jump in consumer borrowing in May, close to the all-time record set in February. Its annual growth rate has picked up to 17 per cent.

per cent increase in MO, the nar-

ply, in June, taking its annual growth up to 6.3 per cent.

The rise in consumer borrowing comes as several leading economists claim that the Chancellor of the Exchequer can halt the consumer boom by abolishing mortgage interest tax relief (Miras) in tomorrow's Budget. The economists from the National Institute of Economic

and Social Research and from

consultancy London Economics

the revenue gain would be much lower than the direct cost of the relief, of just under £3bn a year, hecause of reduced spending.

The expectation is that whatever Gordon Brown decides, interest rates will need to be increased. This expectation belped the pound stay at a five-year high yesterday, with the trade weighted index rising from 101.8 to 102.1 and the

reduce consumer spending pound finishing the day at just sharply. However, they warned over DM2.90.

The main component of M0, cash in circulation, expanded by 0.8 per cent during June. This was the biggest monthly rise for a year, when football fans visitmg for the Euro 96 competition boosted the demand for cash. Although high street spend-ing does not follow the path of cash exactly from month to month, the surge pointed to a

further increase in retail sales.

There was wide agreement among economists that these latest figures were alarming. "This adds to fears that consumer demand growth is accelerating as a result of the building societies' and insurance companies' wind-fall payouts," said Simon

Briscoe at Nikko Europe. Yesterday's figures follow a rash of news indicating that the economy is well on its way to a boom. Most striking were last week's big upward revisions to

earlier figures for gross domestic product suggesting that there is less spare capacity in the economy than previously estimated.

Sean Shepley, an economist at investment bank Crédit Suisse First Boston, said: "These figures are in line with all the other indications about growth. The pound might make it harder for the Bank to raise rates aggressively during the next six months, Marian Bell at the Royal

Bank of Scotland said: "It assembled housing and con would be sensible to hold off in struction industry lobby group July to see whether the latest month's figures are a one-off or the start of a more lasting trend." But she predicted that base rates would be above 7 per

cent by next spring. Separately, an increase in stamp duty, now widely expected as part of the Budget package tomorrow, could trigger a big fall in house prices, according to research conducted for a hastily

The group, Stamp Duty Cocern, predicts that house price could fall by up to 5 per cent f in stamp duty. Although the estimate does not take accou of any potential increase in t threshold for the duty, the a thors say raising stamp duty waffect the housing market su stantially without raising mu

extra revenue for the Treasu

Littlewoods abandons high street store sell-off

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Littlewoods yesterday abandoned plans to sell its high street stores business after failing to find a buyer at an ac-ceptable price. Talks with Kingfisher, the Comet & B&Q retailer, broke down last week after Kingfisher objected to the £500m asking price. King-fisher had wanted to convert most of the 135 stores into

branches of Woolworths. The collapse of the sale plans has forced a strategic rethink by James Ross, the acting chief executive. Though he attempted to put a positive gloss on events yesterday, retail analysts said the failure to sell the high street



Rethink: James Ross acted after collapse of sale price

chain left the company's strategy in tatters. "They are back to square one," said Clive Vaughan at Verdict Research. "It is not a driven strategy. They are reacting to events.

Littlewoods' plans to re-focus its business to concentrate more on home shopping could be further disrupted if the Mo-nopolies and Mergers Commis-sion blocks its £367m deal to buy the Freemans mail order business from Sears. Mr Ross denied that there had been any U-turn. "We said home shopping was a core business and that is still the case. And we always said that there would be no fire sale of the high street stores. A radical new strategy for this division has been concern.

developed and I firmly believe this

will transform the business Under that strategy Little-woods will raise cash by selling up to 35 of its high street sites to leave the chain with 100 stores. Potential buyers could include Kingfisher, Boots and Tesco which had already agreed with Kingfisher to buy around 20 of the Littlewoods stores to convert into its Metro format.

The remaining 100 Littlewoods outlets will trade under a new format concentrating more on ladieswear targeted at women over 45.

The Berkertex hrand will be developed and a trial of 10-12 stores trading under that name will start early next year. A Berkertex catalogue will be de-veloped alongside the high street chain. The division will be "streamlined" in a move expected to include job losses. The chain stores division employs 5,500 full-time equivalents.

Mr Ross said that a de-merger of the retail businesses was possible. This would give the Moores family shareholders which control the group, one share in the home shopping business and another in the hig street operation. Mr Ross said a flotation was still not on the agenda though this might he possible in three to five years.

The company also bolstered its management team yesterday when it named Barry Gibson as its new chief executive. Mr Gibson, 45, was previously retail director of BAA, the airports authority which runs UK airports such as Heathrow, Gatwick and Glasgow. Mr Gibson worked at Littlewoods for 10 years in the 1970s. Mr Ross will move from acting chief executive to non-

executive chairman. Littlewoods first announced in March that it was consider-ing the possibility of selling its high street stores. But its initial price tag of £600m proved un-realistic. Kingfisher proved the most interested but it is thought that it was deterred by the length of time it would have had



Scottish & Newcastle, the UK's largest brewer, yesterday announced plans for a rapid expansion of its themed pub estate, writes Andrew Yates. Its Chef & Brewer family pubs and the John Barras community pub chain will be rolled out across the country over the next few years. It is spending £150m to re-brand 200 of

its pubs in the next 12 months. Brian Stewart,

chief executive (pictured left, with Sir Alistair Grant, chairman, yesterday) said: "Our main focus of growth will be our managed estate, By next April we will have at least 600 pubs trading under our retail brands." He believes Scottish & Newcastle will benefit from the Government's decision last week to block the brewing rival Base's takeover of Carlsberg-Tetley. "On its own

Carlsberg-Tetley will continue to lose market share. Those brewers with strong brands, such as ourselves, will continue to capture that market share," he said. Mr Stewart's comments came as Scottish & Newcastle announced a 21 per cent rise in underlying pre-tax profits to £374m.

Investment column, page 24 Photograph: Andrew Buuman

Energy Group bosses could leave with £1m

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Two senior executives of Energy Group will walk away with cash bonuses and compensation packages worth more than £1m each if they decide not to stay with the company after the proposed £3.7bn takeover by PacifiCorp of the US.

The formal offer document to Energy Group shareholders yesterday showed Derek Bonham, executive chairman since the group's demerger from emerge with £1,491,419. John Devaney, chief executive of Eastern, the regional power company, would leave the group £1,159,995 better off.

riod for executives leaving the group would be extended to two years in the event of a takeover. giving Mr Bonham twice his £450,000 salary as a pay-off. He will also be entitled to re-

ceive a long-term share bonus cash, worth £443,566, whether or not he stays with the combined group. In addition Mr Bonham will make another £147,853 from Energy Group's controversial Special Addition Bonus Scheme, created at the flotation because of the threeyear delay in payouts under the long-term plan. Mr Bonham also owns shares in Energy Group worth £627,000 at Pacifi-

Corp's 690p bid price. Mr Devaney, 50, will see his £350,000 double to £700,000 if The document revealed that the normal one-year nooce pe-

bonus schemes whatever happens. He owns shares worth £34,500 in Energy Group at the offer price. As chief executive of Eastern he received a package worth £1.3m before tax after the 1995 takeover by

The offer document said both executives had been invited onto PacifiCorp's board if the deal went through, although detailed terms had not been discussed and both Mr Bonham and Mr Devaney have not yet decided to do so. Mr Devaney has indicated he may leave the company and seek another joh outside the utility sector. Another director to share in

the windfalls is Eric Austee, Energy Group's finance director, who could walk away with a pay-off worth £500,000.

Railtrack board gets pay increases of 14%

Railtrack's board carned a total of £1.4bn in its first year as a public company, a rise of more than 38 per cent on 1996, according to its annual report published today. Part of the rise can be attributed to the appoint-ment of an extra director, groups. But it is understood his Michael Howell, who left the

group abruptly in March.

After excluding Mr Howell's remuneration, Railtrack's directors awarded themselves £1.2bn, including performance bonuses of £332,000. That amounts to a pay rise of almost 14 per cent, an increase well ahead of the rate of inflation. The pay increases are bound to fuel the controversy that has surrounded the group since it was privatised 13 months ago.
The annual report also re-

veals that Mr Howell, former

commercial director, has received a pay-off of more than £292,000. He resigned from Railtrack in March after just

one year with the company. Mr Howell had been charged with developing Railtrack's relationships with the train opermanagement style did not suit Railtrack. Mr Howell was on a two-year rolling contract. He earned £203,000 in the year to March. Railtrack's highest-paid di-

rector was John Edmonds, chief executive, who received a basic salary of £168,000 as part of a total pay package of £249,000. Mr Edmonds is due to step down as chief executive within the next few months, making way, it is understood, for Grand Metropolitan's former finance

happened is being pursued by

the American Booksellers' Association. Regardless of what motives Mrs Galantro may have

had, there is still puzzlement over how she managed to offer the discounts without either Penguin or the publisher's main

auditors, Arthur Anderson, ap-

parently being aware of them.

Thomas suggests half-way house for ITV

Cathy Newman

Ward Thomas, chairman Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Televisi will today add his voice to mounting calls for a wholes consolidation of the owners of ITV, but he will resist Gra da Group's claims that a sin company should run ITV wi

Gerry Robinson, chairman Granada, which last we tabled its recommend takeover offer for Yorksh said last month that all f companies should be control by a "single entity". Althou Mr Thomas will broadly ag with Mr Rohinson, his prosp tive boss, he will recommen half-way house at first, with 1

companies sharing ITV.
In a speech to be given at Institute of Economic Affa Mr Thomas will say: "I beli that further consolidation called for, perhaps down two players, and perhaps ev tually down to the one player cently advocated by Granad Mr Thomas will go on to c

line the benefits of contin rationalisation, suggesting t ITV is hampered by conflict mterests and disagreements tween disparate parties. "I object will be to create a co pany which could start to come a significant playe the world," he will say.

Meanwhile, United News Media, which is vying w Granada and Carlton Comu nications for control of ITV w last week's £372m bid for H' Group, has scheduled talks w S4C Digital Networks (SD about taking Yorkshire's sta in the company bidding for remaining digital terresti television multiplex. Malcohn Wall, deputy dir

Entertainment, said yesterd We are having detailed ta with SDN on Thursday." said United may not buy Yo shire's stake in SDN outrig but could commit to futi funding over a period of tin Yorkshire was forced to ab: don its agreement with SDN ter Granada's takeover h Granada aiready has access digital terrestrial broadcasti

tor of United Broadcasting

through its joint ownership British Digital Broadcastii the group which won three diral terrestrial licences last we Carlton also has a 50 per ox stake in the company. It is thought Scottish Med Group would be interested getting involved with SDN. also emerged yesterday the Scottish Media's £105m pa

was unlikely to face a public i terest test by the Independe Television Commission. Scottish Media already ow Scottish Television and the Glasgow Herald and Eveni.

chase of Grampian Televisi

Penguin claims former US manager embezzled \$1.4m

David Usborne

Four months after the discovery of an unauthorised discounts scheme that forced Penguin USA, a subsidiary of Pearson, to write off \$165m (£100m), the publisher is claiming a former executive was involved in an elaborate embezziement scam.

In a lawsuit filed in a New Jersey court, Penguin has alleged that its former accounts manager, Christina Galantro, skimmed \$1.4m to fund an

lifestyle of luxury winter cruises and DIY shopping sprees.
"We have compiled a compelling body of evidence that there was a deliberate conspiracy," said Michael Lynton, the chief executive of Penguin, "Our investigation to date indicates that Mrs Galantro acted without

the knowledge, direction or authorisation of her superiors." As it is painted in the suit, the conspiracy was allegedly the seed that led to the much larger scheme whereby Mrs Galantro gave secret discounts to

favoured booksellers, ft was those discounts, which were not entered into the books. that created the \$165m black hole on the company accounts. By accessing records of her cornorate American Express card, Penguin said it had traced some 900 transactions that it believed were funded by Mrs Galantro's ill-gotten wealth.

The company claims that Mrs Galantro treated herself to items ranging from a \$100 honey-baked ham to a \$12,000 cruise voyage. She allegedly

Square, two DIY superstores. Also named in the lawsuit are Mrs Galantro's husband, Stanley, and Jerome Bedell, the

head of a collection agency that served Penguin USA. While on one winter cruise, Ms Galantro allegedly went so far as to fax instructions to her coconspirators to ensure the smooth-running of their scam. Mrs Galantro's lawyer, Cris

spent thousands on Louis Vuit-ton leather goods, on diamonds and on shopping expeditions to Home Depot and Builders Square, two DIY superstand In 1995, Penguin was among

publishers in the US that signed an agreement not to offer secret discounts to retailers. The deal was to protect small retailers from discount schemes aimed at the larger bookstore chains.

Penguin asserts that Mrs Galantro traded the discounts for early payments from book retailers and that those pay-ments were used to disguise her

from retailers that should have been paid to Penguin but which were instead diverted to Mr Bedell at the collection agency.

The unauthorised discounts. the lawsuit asserts, "were used in part to hide Galantro's thefts". Mr Bedell, an employee at the Associated Companies collection

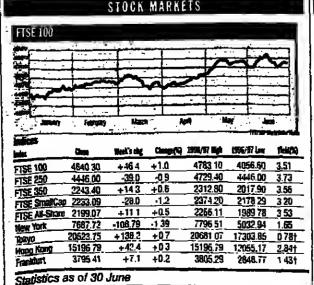
embezzlements. According to the suit, most of the embezzled

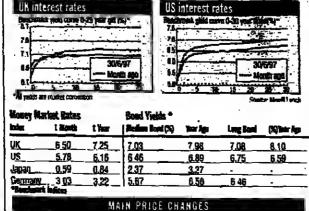
money came from cheques

agency, agreed at the weekend to assist in Penguin's suit and has said he will repay at least \$1m.
An investigation into what

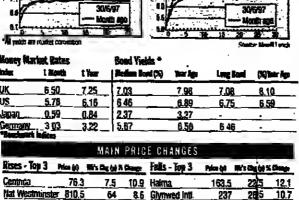


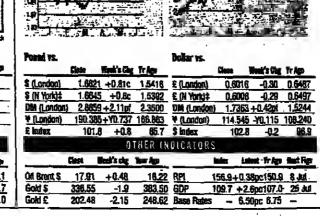
The unique Navi™Key on the new Nokia 3110 can take, save or send a message, call, edit, display and just about everything else you need. One button instead of three or four. Call 0990 003110 for a leaflet. Or float-into vour retailer's for a demo.





INTEREST RATES





S&N stays a step ahead of rivals

Scottish & Newcastle has good cause to be delighted by the Government's decision to block the takeover of Carlsberg-fielley by Bass, its closest brewing rival. If it had been to be delighted by the Government's decision to block the takeover of Carlsberg-fielley by Bass, its closest brewing rival. If it had been to be groups with big, rich pensitis or funds in relation to their pensitis or limiting. Examples include ICI, takeover of Carlsberg-Tetley by Bass, its closest brewing rival. If it had been waved through, Bass would have leapfrogged S&N to become the largest costs associated with Courage, rose 21 per cent to £374m for the year to April Merrill Lynch forecasts current year brewer in the UK with a market share profits of £423m, putting the shares, down 4.5p at 646.5p, on a prospective p/e ratio of 13. Good value. approaching 40 per cent. More importantly it would have had a hrewing stranglehold in certain parts of the country, ootably in the Midlands, where it would have cootrolled almost

white the takeover, the alling Carlsberg-Tetley is left to limp along on its own. It will probably bave to close some of its breweries and certainly have to spend plenty of money to revitalise its brands. The Monopolies & Mergers Commission inquiry has in effect put the company in limbo for the past vear and it will take time to put its house in order. Meanwhile, S&N should be able to capitalise on Carlsberg-Tetley's

disarray and pick up extra business. Fortunately, S&N forced through its own blockbuster merger before the arrival of the new Government and what looks like a crackdown on brewing consolidation. Its purchase of Courage in August 1995 has proved a good deal. Brewing profits rose from £121m to £177m last year. Wisely, S&N bas chosen to conceotrate on profits rather than chase market share. This it bas achieved by marketing hard its highermargin premium hrands such as Kronenbourg and Beck's, cutting expenses by £70m a year with the closure of two breweries and the axing of 1,800 staff and pushing through price increases. S&N's managed pub business is

also going great guns, with profits up 12 per ceot to £149m in the year as it rapidly rolls out themed pubs such as Chef & Brewer, Rat & Parrot and John Barras. Drink and especially food sales from these new outlets are hooming and it plans to spend another £150m this year, up from £116m last time, converting another 200 of its pubs to themed outlets. With all the big pub chains pouring mooey into their managed estates, there bave been worries that returns will start to tail off. But the market still looks far from saturated.

The only real black spot is Center Parcs, its indoor holiday park chain, where profits fell 12 per cent to £72m. S&N was guilty of taking its eye off the ball in continental Europe, where poor economic conditions have dampened demand and attendances bave fallen sharply. The jury is still out on whether it can rectify the situation by introducing new facilities, but at least the UK business is showing a marked

Pre-tax profits, before restructuring

ment of any compensation to Directors at the company.

millionaire who was ousted as its warnings in the past four

lighter to leather goods group.

which has served up two prof-

months, want to slim down op-

erations to focus on its core

branded lighters and watches.

pens, leather luggage and jew-

ellery as well as operating home

shopping, duty-free and pack-

Rouson also sells sunglasses,

Sameena Ahmad

Ronson is set to contest the pay-

Howard Hodgson, the multi-

chief executive of the company

last month, according to com-

pany insiders. Mr Hodgson,

who was unavailable for com-

ment yesterday, was on a two-

year rolling contract that paid £150,000 per annum.

Taxing questions before Wednesday

deotifying the UK company shares likely to he hit hardest by Gordon Brown's Budget on Wednesday has heen taxing investors' minds for weeks now. The obvious targets of the windfall tax aside, one likely Budget proposal which could bave a devastating effect is the widely expected cut. or abolition, of the tax credit on

Certain high-yielding stocks look vul-nerable if Mr Brown cuts the tax credit attached to advance corporation tax. which is currently 20 per cent and could be chopped to 10 per ceot. The behaviour of fund managers, many of whom have spent the past few years deserting high-yielding sbares, is a guide. With tax credits worth less,

institutional pension funds, which can reclaim the tax credits on dividends, have less incentive to invest in high-yielding stocks simply for their dividend income. This is less of an issue for compa-

This is less of an issue for compa-nies with high-yielding shares which can afford to make up the difference by hiking their dividend payout. But weaker companies with weak internal cash generation – low dividend cover and high gearing are pretty good signals – are most vulnerable to heing dumped by fund managers.

Good examples are food manufacturers - particularly Dalgety, Albert Fisher and Booker - which have skyhigh yields, but are struggling to find growth in their main businesses. Also oo the high-yielding, but weak profits growth, hit list are Thorn, Harrisons & Crosfield, Coats Viyella, P&O, De La Rue, English China Clays and

Longer term, any cut or abolition in dividend tax credits would depress the value of company pension funds, which are rated by actuaries on the basis of their potential dividend streams. Companies which thought they had a bandy pension surplus may have to start paying pension contributions - a real

Scottish and Newcastle: At a glance						
N	larket value: £4	.Obn., share pri	ca 646.5p			
Five-year record	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	
Turnovar (£bn)	1.51	1.76	202			
Pre-tax profits (£m)	183	222	264	157	372	
Earnings per share (p)	29.8	33.7		18574		
Dividends per share (p)	16.0	16.8	18.0	19.4	21.4	
UK brewers market sh	Market value: £4.0bm, share price 648.5p ve-year record 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 mover (£bn) 1.51 1.76 222 284 157 372 ruings per share (p) 29.8 33.7 366 18.0 19.4 21.4 brewers market shares Scottish Courage 750 700 700 700 700 700 700 700 700 700					
Others						

Ronson to fight Hodgson compensation

future shape of the company,

Alan Kilkenny, a non-executive

director, said the company had

"tried to get into too many mar-

Commenting on the sugges-

tion that there might be fat to

trim in the company, Mr

Kilkenny said: "You can be as-

sured that there will oot be

profligacy from now on."

liabilities. Examples include ICI.
British Steel, Imperial Tobacco and privatised groups such as BG, the old
British Gas, and BT, which has already shelled out £1 bn to top up its pension fund after last year's cut in the tax

Greycoat centres on Čity property

K Active Value, the "vulture fund" beaded by Brian Myerson and Julian Treger. could yesterday lay claim to its second scalp in a matter of days. Last week it was Hogg Robinson and now Greycoat, the central Loodon property group, bas confirmed much-trailed plans to sell its flagship office development at Embankment Place in Loodon's Charing Cross for £212m and buy back up to a quarter of its shares on a ooc-for-four basis at 171p a share. Both companies bave received the attentions of UKAV. but neither is admitting the fund had any influence on their plans. Certainly Greycoat was putting

forward a good case for originality yesterday as it revealed that pre-tax profits of £1.3m replaced losses of £300,000 in the year to March. The group was saying, with some just-ification, that it had been apparent since at least 1993 that Embankment Place, representing half its £419m property holdings, made its portfolio top heavy. Yesterday's deal, understood to be with the Brunei Investment Authority and done at the equivalent of a 7.5 per cent net yield, suggests it

was worth waiting.
Gearing will now fall to 62 per cent,
allowing plenty of headroom to finance the other £50m required for the redevelopment of the group's three big City development properties at Gresham Street, Bishopsgate and Great St Helens. Those should be ready in nice time for the peak of the current cycle, which Greycoat expects in 1999. By the same token, Moor House, the other potential £100m project in the City, will not be proceeded with unless a 50 per cent pre-let can be obtained.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd is forecasting a rise in net assets per share from the current 172p to 195p this year. So the shares, up 2p at 165.5p, look reasonable value as a punt on London

Laurie Todd, finance director,

said he did not expect further

provisions, hut warned that

first-half losses would be "sig-

nificant" in order to invest in re-

viving the Rouson brand. A new

information technology system

was likely to cost around £1 m.

chairman, said there was "solid

Shaun Dowling, executive

Lim for the year to Dece

ber compared to £4m of prof-

The losses, £200,000 higher

than the group predicted when

it posted a financial warning in

June, were attributed to relo-

cation and reorganisation ex-

penses, costs from shipping

products which were not in

stock to meet orders, reduced

its made in 1995.

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Whelan sells £17m of shares to fund Wigan stadium

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

David Whelan, the former Blackburn Rovers footballer who is chairman of JJB Sports, has sold £17m of shares in the company to belp fund a new sta-dium for Wigan Athletic football club.

Mr Whelan, who is chairman of Wigan, said he had sold the shares ahead of tomorrow's Budget to take advantage of leg-islation oo capital gains tax.

He said he feared that Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, would end capital gains roll-over relief which limits or defers the tax payable provided the proceeds are invested in another business. "I think the Chancellor will

end that, so by selling now 1 will oot have to pay the 40 per cent tax," Mr Whelan said. "If there wasn't a Budget on Wednesday I wouldn't be

Mr Whelan sold 3.5 million shares at 481p each. However, be and his family still control 55 per cent of the fast-growing company and Mr Whelan bas



Selling fast: David Whelan wanted to beat the Budget

undertaken to sell no more

shares for 12 months. He said his family remained as committed as ever to the company: "We still live and breathe it. We love it." Mr Whelan will use the share

proceeds to belp fund a new £20m stadium for Wigan which it will share with Orrell, the rugby union club.

Construction of the 25,000 all-seater stadium is expected to

start in September and is scheduled to take 12 to 15 months.

Wigan were promoted to the second division of the football league last seasoo and Ma Whelan said he was hoping for more success in the coming "We are going to fight like hell for it," he said.

The share sale comes just two weeks after Mr Whelan gave his grandchildren £28m of shares for inheritance tax reasons. The gift made two-week-old Paul Sharpe one of the youngest

millionaires in Britain. Separately JJB Sports issued an upbeat trading statement showing that in the 22 weeks to 29 June like-for-like sales were 18 per cent ahead of the same period last year.

Total sales, including new openings and additional floorspace, were 60 per cent higher. Though this is lower than the 71 per cent increase announced in April, the company said this was due to a relatively poor start to 1996 because of adverse weather conditions.

JJB shares were unchanged

Bath Press

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Lonrho talks with JCI fail

Magnus Grimend

Loorho yesterday confirmed the collapse of merger talks with JCI, the first hlack-controlled South African mining house, which would bave created a \$3bn (£1.8bn) minerals group. Shares in the British-based hotels to cotton farming group fell 4p to 127.5p on the news. No reason was given for the failure of the negotiations, first

revealed last month, but reports from Johannesburg suggest that there were disagreements over ownership, management and financing. Last week, Roland "Tiny" Rowland, the former chief executive and still a large shareholder in the group, hit out sterday he was pleased to hea

that it bad now been called off. "If they had gone ahead with a merger with JCI, I would have sued some of the directors.... It was a rotten deal for shareholders. Lourho no longer bas an effective board. They are receivers, there to sell off parts of

the group."
Nick Morrell, Lonrho chief executive, refused to elaborate now accelerate its break-up

discussions have terminated. We may come hack to them about coal, but we haven't decided yet," Mr Morrell said. The original talks with JCI were to discuss a possible merger of the two companies' coal interests, which lie next to each other in South Africa. Mr Morrell said it "makes very good sense" to put Lonrho's Duker Mining

business together with JCI's Tavistock Collieries operation, but added: "We would not be interested in selling Duiker." The ending of the corporate merger talks will revive speculation that other South African mining groups, such as Anglo Vaal and Gencor, are interested

against the merger as part of a in hidding for Lourho. Mr Row-campaign to enlist investor sup-land said Anglo American, port against the deal. He said which owns around 27 per cent of Lonrho, should now bid at th 201p, a share price at which it bought shares from him. Anglo has been ordered by the European Commission to reduce its stake in Lonrho to below 10 per cent on competition grounds.

Mr Morrell said be had

received no offers from anyone and he also refused to confirm reports that the group would

may move into France **Cathy Newman**

"For a number of reasons these

Bath Press Group, the books printer that was founded by the inventor of shorthand, Sir Issac Pitman, is aiming to expand into France within a year and intends to partly fund any acquisition with a rights issue. The company, which came to

the market two years ago, said yesterday it could spend only around £3m in cash, and would therefore need to launch a rights issue if it pulled off its plans for expansion. Bath Press, which bought Proost, the Belgian book printer last August, has already held informal talks with several operators in the French market.

Roy Hill, the company's chief executive, said in the longer term he may look at taking the perbacks through acquisition. Bath Press prints academic books and retail non-fiction. Reporting a 92 per cent

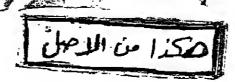
March, Mr Hill said yesterday be would order a £1.8m printing press in Glasgow towards increase in pre-tax profits to £5.5m for the year-to the end of end of the year and a new binding plant would be installed in the Bath centre this month.

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margins and a £900,000 bad demand for the group's prod-





Show

COMMENT

The truth of the matter is, that while utility regulation may be in need of some institutional reform, its underlying foundations are

essentially sound'

Beckett tamed by the watchdog mandarins If in doubt, order a review. In a move worthy of that great fictional civil servant, Sir Humphrey Appleby, all those weird and won-derful ideas Labour toyed with while in op-

position to address the supposed excesses of the privatised utilities - profit sharing, slid-ing scale regulation and the like - are now to be subjected to a thorough going review. And by civil servants no less. It can be said with a reasonable degree of certainty that by the end of the process, most of these suggested innovations will have been quietly buried.

So mature, considered and generally unrevolutionary did Margaret Beckett's speech on regulatory reform seem yesterday, that for all we can surmise, Sir Humphrey must already have had his way and persuaded the new President of the Board of Trade to back away from all that was said while on the other side of the fence. Rate of return regulation is ruled out entirely. Executive remuneration is a matter not for regulators but for the companies themselves, she says in words that might have come straight from the lips of John Major. She's also going to stick with

the idea of independent regulation, free from political interference.

And in an admission that she would oever have made in opposition, Mrs Beckett concedes that "the combination of competition regulation and the introduction of petition, regulation, and the introduction of new technology in the utilities since pri-vatisation has in most areas brought benefits in the form of lower prices to con-sumers". Well there's a thing. It seems that

Mrs Thatcher built something worth preserving, after all.

The truth of the matter is, of course, that while utility regulation may be in oced of some institutional reform, its underlying foundations are essentially sound. In some cases, notably telecommunications and gas, regulators have already succeeded in ironing out virtually all the early privatisation excesses, so much so that the introduction of new-fangled ideas such as profit sharing might actually work against the interests of

the customers they are meant to protect.
That's particularly the case with gas where old-style price cap regulation is now so severe that there is a real chance that TransCo won't earn the regulator's assumed rate of return. Under profit sharing, customers would end up having to help meet the difference with higher prices.

In other utilities regulators are well on the way to achieving the same thing. The exception is the most recent price regulated pri-vatisation, rail, which is being left out of Mrs Beckett's review. John Prescott is determined to keep the railways as his own spe-

cial plaything. For a party that made so much out of privatised excess while in opposition, the irony is that now it's in government there's not much left to be done about it, other than a Under its own steam, however, price cap regulation is now delivering for customers in exactly the way it was always intended to. As with so many other things, it all came too late to help the Tories.

Brown won't be able to please everyone

Gordon Brown has lots of constituencies to please in tomorrow's Budget. For the markets, he needs to produce a fiscally responsible Budget. For industry, it has to be business friendly - lots of measures to help investment and offset the effect of the expected abolition of tax credits on dividends For Old Labour, it has to be a Budget with a social conscience. Measures to help the poor, reduce unemployment and crackdown on the fat cats will have to be included alongside anything that helps business.

Then there are the economic pundits, a small but hard-to-please elite of conuscenti. Only a raft of measures to dampen down the consumer boom and halt sterling's soaraway appreciation will satisfy them. And finally there's Middle England, or New Labour. This is the most difficult constituency of all to square with the others. It expects some fiscal tightening but not that much. Dress it little tinkering at the edges. There may be some scope for standardising general principles of economic regulation across the utilities, and the cult of personality among regulations are standardising general principles of economic regulation across the utilities, and the cult of personality among regulations are standardising general principles of economic regulation across the utilities.

taxes? Hit new Labour voters too hard, and they'll start complaining. So to use a dreadful old cliche, Mr Brown

bas got quite a rightrope to walk. Having now discovered a "black hole" in the public finances, largely artificially it has to be said, he's got to fill it. He's also got to find money for reform of the tax and benefit system and to fund all those investment incentives that industry is confidently looking forward to. At the same time he's got to raise money to soak up some of those building society and insurance windfalls, taking it out of the economy altogether. And finally he's got to do all this without giving the Conservative opposition ammunition to be able to say, credibly, we told you so. If he pulls all that off, he really will be a Chancellor to remember.

FitzGerald's strategy will take some time

llever's sale of its John West canned fish business to Heinz seems to lay at least one stock market canard to rest—that it might use the £5bn proceeds from the sale of its speciality chemicals business to take a tilt at the Pittsburgh baked bean leviathan itself. It wouldn't make a lot of sense to sell your unwanted businesses to a company you intended to bid for.

Unilever's chairman, Niall FitzGerald, has been playing a good guessing game with the

plators certainly needs to be curtailed. Labour's election promise not to increase | City for weeks oow. He has told Unileven watchers to expect the unexpected and Heinz has been one of a raft of names linked with his shopping list. With Heinz now seemingly ruled out, perhaps the rumour mill will turn to other US consumer goods companies, like Campbell Foods and CPC.

Or maybe not. Actually, Mr FitzGerald has persistently stressed since announcing the preciality absented.

the speciality chemicals disposal his intention of rebalancing group assets towards the mouth-watering opportunities in emerging markets such as the Far East and central and eastern Europe, Buying Campbell would not achieve that aim. And even CPC, which is more international than most, still makes half its profits in mature markets such as the US and Europe. The difficulty for Mr FitzGerald is that while the City keeps looking for the big deal, his alternative strategy is going to take some time to realise. Most branded goods companies in emerging mar-kets are family owned and relatively small. In any case, Mr FitzGerald wants to build

his own brands in these markets. While there might be a few deals long the way, therefore, much of this development is bound to be organic. It is something Coca Cola has been doing for years—starting from scratch in oew markets and building the brand. The problem is that Unilever has a bit of ground to make up. Only a third of its profits come from emerging markets. Mean-while that earnings dilutive £5bn will keep burning a hole in Mr FitzGerald's pocket.

DTI plans review of utility regulation

over half the operation in December, buy-

ing back 5 per cent of its shares at a cost

of £121.5m. It followed a rethink after the

company's planned takeover of South West Water was blocked by the Government.

latest move showed the company had room to pay the windfall tux. Research by

could pay between £150m and £264m of a

intal keyy that could reach £5bn.

Alan Costin, finance director, denied the

man Sechs estimated the company

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

The Government yesterday pledged to redress the balance between utility customers and shareholders with a review of How privatised companies are regulated, but admitted that the main planks of the existing sys-

tem were likely to be preserved.

Key plans to ensure poorer consumers did not come out worse off from emerging domestic energy competition also ran into immediate conflict from the Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, who warned against noe group of customers

subsidising another. Margarett Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, said the intendepartmental review, which would take several mooths, would look at all aspects of the way the privatised utility companies were regulated from consumer representation. The made by Southern Electric and those made by Southern Electric and the said privatisation had given the impression that shareconsumer representation. The

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holders interests came first and promised any changes would leave "a very tough" regime. "Satisfied consumers are the key to regulatory stability. The balance between the returns to shareholders and those to coosumers from efficiency gains is

Severn Trent, the privatised water company, yesterday announced plans to band back £134m to its shareholders, just two days

before the Government reveals in the

Budget how much the company will have to pay under the windfall tax, writes Chris

The Birmingham-based group blamed the unfortunate timing of the capital re-

structuring plan on the need to obtain ap-proval from shareholders at its annual

general meeting on 30 July. The an-

However, she also sought to was to introduce annual profit reassure companies that some of the more radical proposals previously floated had been ditched. "Were oot talking about the Government taking control by the backdoor." One option, trailed by Labour before the election,

sharing to cream off any excess profits which were not intended to emerge under longer-running price regimes. ft would work alongside the existing price cap system, which limits bills through a formula based on inflation. Mrs Beckett also confirmed

the Government had ruled out lands Electricity, the US-owned moving to a rate-of-return reg-ulation system on the US model, where prices are directly linked to investment spending, which critics have argued led companies

to "gold plate" their networks.

The profit sharing plans ran into swift opposition from Mid-

Severn Trent shareholders get £134m last November, Southern carried out just vestors, with the benefit that all shareholders would share in the gains. The move, which has to be carried out by 11 August, will cost the company £134m based

on Friday's closing share price of 764.5p.
The restructuring involves issuing shareholders with a new ordinary share worth 62p and a new class of "B" share worth 38p for every existing share with an issued valne of 100p. Severn Trent will offer to buy back all the B shares, free of commission charges, through merchant bankers my will also consolidate the ordinary shares, giving investors

19 shares for every 20 held. Mr Costin did not discount the possibility of further buy-backs after the windregional power company. Mike Hughes, chief executive, warned: "Profit sharing is both bureaucratic and it puts up costs. It damages incentives and it pushes up prices." Ofwat, the water watchdog, also cast doubt on the system.

The question is whether that reduces incentives so customers get a larger share of a smaller cake," said a spokeswoman. A DTI source later stressed the need for regulatory consistency, describing Ofwat's voluntary system of profit sharing as

lightly bonkers". Another concern was that pre-payment meter customers on low incomes were seeing the smallest savings from domestic energy competitioo because they cost more to supply. "We must ensure that competition provides a better deal for all consumers, including the poor-

est," said Mrs Beckett. Ms Spottiswoode said it was impossible to have "invisible cross subsidies". "There's no point in trying to fight for things that are not possible any more."

IN BRIEF

Gas market to start early in Scotland

The cext phase in the opening of the domestic gas market will start on 1 November, giving choice to 2 million homes in Scotland and the North-east of England, the gas watchdog, Ofgas, said. The date, two weeks earlier than that predicted by independent suppliers, was possible because TransCo, the British Gas pipeline business, was building a separate computer system to manage the process. Full competition across the UK will follow in stages, ending with London and Surrey on 19 June 1998.

Midlands dampens competition hopes

Midlands Electricity cast doubt on the cost savings from domestic Midlands Electricity cast doubt on the cost savings from domestic electricity competition, which will begin oext April. In one of the most damning public attacks so far by a regional power company, Mike Hughes, chief executive, said: "People should not expect the fall in electricity prices in 1998 like the fall in gas prices. Electricity is not a parallel to gas." He said 1998 was costing to company "real money — very high levels", but would only affect for 7 per cent of bills, of which 1 per cent was currently profit. "It's difficult to see how immediate price cuts will occur," he warned.

TV watchdog cracks down on sales staff

The ITC moved to prevent cable and satellite operators issuing misleading information about their competitors. The watchdog has told cable and satellite companies that some employees had distorted subscribers' decisions by giving "misleading and deni-gratory informatioo" about their competitors. The ITC has now asked licensees to train and monitor sales and subscriber management staff, and to maintain a register of complaints from competing service providers.

Norwich Union appoints finance director

Norwich Union has appointed Micheal Biggs as finance director, a fortnight after the life insurer's flotation. Mr Biggs is currently group director (international) for Norwich Union and he succeeds Richard Hervey, who will become group chief executive of the company in January 1998. Responsibility for Norwich Union's international businesses will be assumed by Tom Fraser, who joined the company from Ernst & Young two years ago.

Biocure buys needle disposal company

Biocure Holdings has bought a company roughly twice its size, Needle Incincrator Company (NIC), a specialist in the on-site disposal of medical biohazardous waste which has developed an innovative needle disposal system. Biocure is paying for the deal by issuing 100,537,578 new ordinary shares to the current share-bolders of NIC, valuing NIC at around £27.7m.

The company is also changing its name to Medisys, and has appointed Michael Coy, Brian Timmons and James Chan, directors of NIC, to the board of Biocure as managing director, finance director and commercial director respectively.

Biocure is also delisting from the Official List and transfer-ring to AIM. ft will hold an EGM on 25 July to seek shareholder approval, and dealing on AIM will start on 28 July. NIC's needle disposal products are forecast to have a big impact in the US and Mexico. NIC made losses of £668,000 in the year to 31 May 1996, and losses of £990,000 in the seven months ended 31 December 1996.

Abbey National opens branch in Safeway

Abbey National is to open its first in-store bank branch in a Safeway supermarket as part of the cooperation deal between the two companies. A branch of Abbey National would be opened in Safeway's Leicester store on 15 July for a one-year trial period, and would offer a wide range of personal financial services, the two

In March, Abbey National and Safeway launched the ABC Bonus Account as a debit account for Safeway shoppers. "The two companies are working together to provide an integrated package of jointly-branded financial services, from personal loans to household insurance, as well as developing technology to provide further in-store financial facilities," they said.

P&O expecting ruling on ferry merger

Lord Sterling, chairman of Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation, said he hoped for a decision this week from the Government on the proposed merger between the company's and Stens Line's cross-Channel ferry operations. He added that be was not concerned by decision last week by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, to block the takeover by Bass of Carlsberg-Tetley, as the deal was in a "completely different category". However, he recognised that the rejection was "a very unusual decision".

WPP feels sterling impact on revenues

WPP Group said world-wide revenues in the first five mooths of 1997 were up more than 7 per cent, while the impact of strong sterling meant that reportable revenues were down slightly for the period. Overall, the advertising group said it was ahead of budget and ahead of last year in a "sound" trading environment. Sterling has strengthened considerably, in WPP's case on average by 8 per cent, oot only against the US dollar but even more so against continental European currencies and the Japanese yen, and as a result, reportable revenues were slightly down, the company said.

ft said it achieved stronger revenue performances than the average in Latin America, Asia Pacific and the United States. Europe grew by about 6 per cent with some signs of a strengthening in continental Europe.

Bank of Scotland agrees bid for EFT

The Bank of Scotland announced an agreed £89.6m bid for EFT. a Glasgow-based leasing group. The offer is worth 175p a share in cash, with a five-for-11 share alternative. The Bank, which has the support of holders of 9.72 per cent of EFT shares, intends to merge the group with its existing British Linen Leasing operation.

Andersen elects Grafton to resolve row

The board of Anderson Worldwide, the international accounting and consulting firm, has appointed its chairman as acting chief executive in an effort to defuse the row that has seen the organisation's partners twice reject the managemeot's nomination for chief executive.

The 27-strong board said the unanimous election of Robert Grafton, a 25-year veteran of the Chicago-based firm, "decou-ples the CEO electoral process from the separate and distinct process of achieving constructive

organisacional change". At a meeting in Paris earlier this year the firm's 2,700 partners overwhelmingly decided to keep the Arthur Andersen accounting arm and the Andersen Consulting operation together.
But it is clear that continuing
tensions about the future of the world's biggest accounting and consulting firm were behind the failure last month of first Jim Wadia, bead of the UK accounting operation, and then George Shaheen, world-wide head of Andersen Consulting, to secure the two-thirds majority necessary to succeed Lawrence Weinbach as managing partnerchief executive.

Mr Weinbach - seen as a "statesmanlike" figure and one he architects of the 1989 split Liveen the traditional business advisory arm Arthur Andersen

and Andersen Consulting, which has increasingly become associated with information technology projects and out-sourcing - is oot seeding a third term as head of a firm employs about 100,000 people and last year reported revenues of \$9.5bn (£5.7bn). He plans to retire to pursue other interests at the end of next month.

Uoder the interim arrangemeous announced yesterday, following the board's weekend meeting in New York, a group of about 10 partners will be se-lected to conduct a wide-rang-ing review by next spring.

It is understood that the

group will examine "anything and everything", including such issues as reorganising the board to reflect the fact that the consulting operation is now as large as the accounting firm and friction over believed differences in earnings between US partners and those in the rest of the world. The team will also look at ways of improving the firm's already renowned toch nology and training efforts as well as how to build on its service to clients.

The board hopes that having a much smaller group than the Andersen 21 body, which involved more than 70 partners when discussing the first overhaul of the firm since the consulting operation became a separate entity, will speed up the decision-making process.



In the can: Chairman Niall FitzGerald wants to focus on 'power brands'

Unilever sells John West to Heinz

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Unflever has sold its UK-based John West Foods business to HJ Hemz and Co for around £40m. The sale is part of the strategy outlined by Niall FitzGerald. Unilever's chairman, of focusing on "power brands" that it can market around the world. Best known for its canned fish,

ness for Unilever as the company does not manufacture or can the products. Based in Liverpool, the UK business employs just 88 people in importing, distributing and marketing functions. The business achieved sales of £150m last year.

particularly salmon. John West of canned fish and vegetables has not been a high margin busi-were no longer considered a priority. However, it will retain the John West operations in Australia and New Zealand as

Unilever said it was selling the business as the John West range founded by John West, a Scot of Unilever since the 1960s.

grated food businesses. Famed for its advertising slogan "It's the fish that John West rejects that makes John

these are part of larger inte-

igrated to the United States, ft was formed as a partnership in the 1860s with the first John West salmon products reaching England in 1869. The UK operations are based

born oear Edinburgh, who em-

in Liverpool and the company has been associated with Unilever since the 1920s. ft has been a wholly owned subsidiary

Robert Hanson set to sell crane maker for £400m

Clifford **Germa**n

Robert Hanson, the 37-year-old son of the Hanson group's founder who has been corporate development director for two years, has been given the job of selling off Grove Worldwide, the Hanson group's US-based maker of hydraulic cranes and aerial work planforms.

The sale, which will be of disposals by Hanson since conducted through an inter-

national auction handled by company's long-term acquisition the Goldman Sachs investment policy in 1995. the Goldman Sachs investment bank, is expected to raise around £400m.

The announcement yesterday followed several informal approaches from potential trade buyers and was made with the intention of flushing out other potential buyers.

ft is the latest in a sequence

Grove Worldwide was acquired as part of the Kidde group of businesses in 1987, but it was oot included in the port-

folio of American businesses de-merged with US Industries two years ago. Hanson's mainstay businesses are in building ma-terials, and include ARC. Cornerstone and Hanson Brick. Grove is the largest US

Pennsylvania and Nebraska and is the market leader in the UK, where it has a manufac-France and Germany and employs around 5,000 people world-wide.

Around 60 per cent of sales are in the US, with a further 30 per cent in Europe. Africa and current financial year, howevthe Middle East. Analysts said er, it reported an operating for the core business.

were volatile, as would be ex-

pected from a manufacturer of high-priced capital equipment. turing plant in Sunderland. It also has plants in the UK. of £48m in the last financial year on a nurnover of £529m. That compared with a profit of just £12m on a turnover of £261m in 1994.

In the first six months of the

maker of cranes with plants in Grove's turnover and profits profit of £20.9m, down 9 per cent oo the same period last year. The groop blamed a change in the sales mix, ag-gressive pricing by competitors

and currency effects.
Hanson in its demerged state
since Imperial Tobacco and
Millennium Chemicals last October has little debt, however, and the disposal of Grove could help finance new acquisitions

market report/shares

FTSE 100 4604.6 FTSE 250 FTSE 350. 2228.0 SEAQ VOLUME 817.3m share 5,853 bargains Gilts Index

Share spotlight

| 200 | Above | Company |

Budget gloom and US interest rates keep Footsie down

Gordoo Brown's first Budget is weighing heavily on the stock market. The usual deluge of weekend forecasts, ranging from the end of mortgage re-lief, a glut of "greeo" taxes and the already well-signalled wind-fall tax to the strike at institutional tax relief were enough to

kill all hut the most deter-mined investment interest. Just to underline stock markets are in for a highly uncertain week, with even the most deeply researched investment decisions likely to be found wanting, the Americans are due to start deliherating on their interest rates today.

And to pile on the agony the US non-farm payroll figures. renowned for creating stock

Footsie struggled to restrain its fall to 35.7 points at 4,604.6. Supporting indices were also weak.

weak.

Even the banking fraternity
failed to keep up their spirits
despite cootinuing speculation about a bid for National tion about a bid for National Westminster Bank. Barclays, still to produce a definitive denial of bid interest, fell 33p to 1,192p and Abbey National, another rumoured NatWest partner, weakened 13.5p to 820p. Royal Bank of Scotland, last mark touted as a sure-fire lar-

week touted as a sure-fire target for HSBC, tumbled 22.5p to 559.5p. Nat West lost a modest 3p to 807.5p. Newly floated Halifax remajoed on form with the

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

Severn Trent, returning £134m to shareholders, gained

f134m to shareholders, gained
13p to 777.5p and ScottishPower added 9p to 391p on
Credit Lyonnais Laing support.
Increased profits did little for
Scottish & Newcastle, off 4.5p
to 646.5p, and Bass remained

FKI, which failed to buy Newabove 200p the sum-of-the-parts valuation is unlikely to enman Tonks after a fierce little hattle earlier this year, emerged as a possible bidder. courage a break-up hid. Lonrho, another where parts The engineer fell 3p to 170p.

could be worth more than the whole, fell 4p to 127.5p as merger talks with JCI, the South African group came to oothing.
In the past few weeks the

suspicioo has grown that the MFL the furniture retailer, Around £70m against £58.1m

get, presumably to see if any tax measures are taken against alcopops. The shares touched 140p when the alcoholie soft drink excitement was at its

cline with futures activity ap-parently doing the latest damage. UBS was said to have taken up a batch of September puts. In the cash market the shares fell 13.5p to 440p.

Flexieth continued to dis-

BSkyB remained in sad de-

play relief that last week's BBC and Pearson share sales were out of the way, rising 20.5p to 643p.
Ulster TV, on hopes it will be next in line for a hid, rose

19.5p to 179.5p.
Firm crude prices prompted

Rolls-Royce, on fears of forced sales, fell 9.5p to 229.5p. Last week the aero engine group revealed overseas share-holders had topped the 29.5p per cent Government-imposed limit and excess shares were

likely to be sold. Crown Leisure softened 3p to 109.5p. Interim profits were £552,000 against £466,000; the cost of developing an oo-lioe lottery in pubs. clubs and shops will depress year's profits. IJB Sports held at 492.5p af-

ter chairman David Whelan sold 3.5 million shares at 480p through SBC Warburg. The object of the exercise was to finance a oew stadium for Wigan Athletic.

Engineering minnow Fer-rum slumped 4.75 p to 2.5 p after an £8,000 profit and a shake up including a £3.1m cash call. Thompsoo Holdiogs, vehicle of Richard Thompson, will underwrite

Taking Stock

Barr & Wallace Arnold
Trust may be editing towards
the sale of its holidays side. the sale of its indigers side.
After receiving a \$25m offer from rival Lettureplus, a buyout from Rank it put the division up for a letter to the highest bidder wide observers belief a state plus will emerge.

will emerge as the win

B&WAT, where family inuse the cash to develop its motor side; a hand-out to likely. The shares were firm

Tkays Food, now focusing on home care services and leisure catering, held at 2.5p. Stockbroker Ellis & Partners described the shares as speculative but interesting it forecasts a loss of £150,000 in the year ended March but profits of £90,000 this year and then £700,000.

tentative after Friday's takeshares, io busy trading, up flares among second-line oils with British Borneo Petroleum Syndicate up 28.5p to 1,417.5p and Hardy Oil & Gas 6p to 334.5p. Shell, in its oew sliming the second s edged forward 2p to 135p ahead of results due today. over rebuff, falling 2p to 733p. market turmoil, will be pub-lished on Thursday. The in-BTR, the struggling con-glomerate, rallied 6.5p to Merrydown, the alcopops and cider group, lost 12.5p to vestmeot week could he left in 55p. Figures due yesterday failed to materialised. They 205.5p as some chunky lines is expected. limbo and the temptatioo to Bridon, the wire rope maker, jumped 29.5p to 135.5p. a l2-month high, as engineer postponed until after the Budwent through. The stale bull postpooe decisions heightened takeover story went the rounds line form, declined 11.25p to with New York closed on Friagain although there is a growday for Independence Day. The independent index

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FTSE 100 Index hour by hour

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Why the Bank of England was right on interest rates after all

So Kenneth Clarke was wrong and the Bank of England was right after only a few months, which is the Bank from increasing interest rates two years ago in summer 1995 the popular judgement was that he was proved right by subsequent events. The economy did seem to be growing more slowly and the rise did not seem to have been needed to slow it further. We all know that Mr Clarke was wrong to block the Bank from increasing interest rates in the run-up to the election; but the accepted wisdom has been that on that first occasion he was right. Indeed, even the Bank softened its line and racitly admitted it had been

wrong to press for such an early increase in rates. Now we know the Bank was right. Last week, long after the event, the statisticians announced they had discovered the ecocomy had been growing more rapidly than they thought. GDP is now 1 per cent higher than they estimated and most of the revisions refer back to 1994 and 1995.

To many of us this did not come as a great surprise. Statisticians have found it difficult to measure activity in the service industries and usually have to upgrade their estimates. Intuitively, it felt as though the economy was expanding quite fast even when the figures did not confirm that, but ecocomists are trained to look at figures rather than go out and find out what people are saying and doing. Last week's revisions to the data show they should have believed their instincts rather than their screens.

At one level this is all good sport: it is nice to poke fun at economists carnestly analysing data that turns out to completely wrong. But it does carry less agreeable implications for future policy, because if policy was not tightened early enough, it will have to be tightened more now. We all knew

101 11 14

none too catastrophic. Now it is becoming clear that policy should ideally have been tightened rather earlier - like when the Bank originally wanted to - if the present expansion is not to get out of control.

Or at least that is the oew popular wisdom. Because growth has been faster than once thought and because the economy is now larger than thought, it is close to full capacity. It follows that growth has to be pulled back to its trend rate, 23-24 per cent, if there is not to be an inflationary boom. This is the background to the calls for Mr Brown to take steps in the Budget to cool the housing market and check the growth of consumption. Anyone arguing this, though, ought just to consider one small possibility. Maybe the

just as flawed as the old. The particular data here that are relevant are those for the capacity of the economy. In a predominantly manufacturing economy there is a clear limit to capacity: plants can produce a certain amount of output and if demand exceeds that, then there is a combination of a rise in imports and a rise in inflation as buyers compete for scarce products. But in a service economy capacity is a more elastic concept. Of

new data we are considering is



Hamish McRae

It is becoming clear that policy should have been tightened rather earlier – when the Bank originally wanted to -ifpresent expansion is not to get

course there are finite limits, but not only are these less clear-cut; it is also possible to increase capacity more quickly. Indeed with some service prodncts, like computer software, capacity can be increased very rapidly and almost infinitely.

How close is the UK economy to full capacity?

out of control

Not only is the ceiling on capacity softer than before; it is also at least possible that it for concern comes from the may be growing faster than was previously thought. The historical growth rate of the UK. economy has been around 2.3 per cent, though in the 1980s it actually grew at 2.5 per cent. If you take 2.3 per cent and start from 1990, you can show that we are already at full-capacity now. Have a look at the graph, derived from some work by Goldman Sachs. If the old data had been correct there would still be some spare capacity, though the gap would be narrowing. Allow for the re-visions to the data and we are

already hitting the 2.3 per cent trend line drawn by Goldman. On the other hand, if the underlying growth capacity had risen to the 2.6 per cent trend line that I have drawn in, there would be some spare capacity even allowing for the new vidence on growth.

Which view is right? It mat-ters for policy. If the former is correct there is a serious and immediate problem. If growth is not slowed quickly we will run into an inflation problem very soon. But if the latter is correct, then, while growth will have to he checked over the next 18 months, there is less of an im-

mediate danger. There is certainly some problem, for consumption is rising very rapidly (witness the figures yesterday) and the

money supply figures, also released yesterday, which show broad money using at an an-nual 11 per cent. If you let money supply rise that fast you are going to get a housing boom. So whatever view you take on capacity, there is a case

of evidence that there is no general capacity shortage yet. Un-

oot on a sufficient scale to lead would expect to see some sign time. But in fact the current ac-

count has moved from deficit

to surplus. There may be a

more benign had the Bank

won that little spat with Mr

Clarke two years ago.

problem in the future but there little evidence of it now. Given the boom/bust history of recent years there is no cause for complacency. This is the stage of the cycle where we get things wrong. But given the scale and duration of the expansion, now in its sixth year, things appear quite benign -and would have looked even

housing market has an infla-tionary fizz to it. Further cause

for higher interest rates. But there is also quite a bit

employment has come down sharply, but the past three months have seen a modest decline in the rate of earnings growth, not a rise as you might have expected. What seems to be happening is that the de-mand for labour is pulling back into the labour market people who had become discouraged from seeking employment, like middle-aged women and early-retired men. This has enabled firms to carry on hiring without pushing up wage rates too much. There are specific labour shortages but

to a general surge in pay rates.
Nor is there a problem on the balance of payments. True the very last monthly figures did show a jump in imports, but the current account was in solid surplus during the first three months of the year. Given the rate of growth of the economy over the past three years you of a deterioration during this

PEOPLE & BUSINESS Good oews for those who

Sugar not doing business with Sunday newspaper

Since Alan Sugar is willing to spend £11m on hung Juninho away from Middlesborough, another rumoured investment by the Spurs chairman, a paltry £400,000 in Sunday Business. paper, appears small beer in

But a spokesman for Mr Sugar insists the latter is merely a rumour "that has been doing the rounds for the last three weeks. There's nothing in it. Alan Sugar has had enough trouble with journalists over the years. I hardly think he wants to start

employing them."
Yesterday Mr Sugar was at the last extraordinary general meeting for Amstrad, his creation which is to cease trading. What's left of it has been acquired by Viglen Technology. His spokesman assures me it is footy only for Mr Sugar from now on.

Now NatWest Markets is leaking telecoms analysts as well as chief executives. Mark Lambert, who leads Nat West's highly rated telecoms team, is defecting to Merrill Lynch, along with Jo Oliver and telecoms equity salesperson Katie Still.

Mr Lambert and co will ioin Merrill's telecoms team. headed by Chris McFadden, in September. A Merrill spokesman was cock-a-hoop: We think these are terrific additions. We look forward to adding them to an already strong team." There could be a squabble over who gets the biggest desk, though.

Talking of defecting analysts, Roh Thomas, the building society specialist, left UBS for SBC Warburg two mooths ago. So it was rather puzzling when 1 phoned his old number at UBS yesterday, only to hear the following message: "This is Rob Thomas. I'll be out of the office until the end of April." A bit longer than April, I

One would have thought that if a company had gone

End of an era: Alan Sugar has a footy-only future

through a bad patch then it would be only too pleased to forget all about it. But the Investor Relations Society awards last Friday at the Hyde Park Hilton opened up a wardrobe full of skeletons.

John Humphries from the Today programme was handing out the prizes and BP seemed to win most of them. including Best Company and Best Annual Report. So far so good. Then came the prize for "which company's investor relations department had performed best in

crisis management". The three commations were National Westminster Bank, Yorkshire Water and Matthew Clark. These names were read out to stunned silence. Were they really going to rake up NatWest's £90m options black hole, Yorkshire's leaks and Matthew Clark's profits warning? Matthew Clark won.

Then came the award for corporate governance would it be BTR or Emap? At these names there was a gasp of incredulity - wasn't Emap the company which last year sacked a boatload of non-executive directors?

The bemused guests were able to recover by dancing the night away with a band doing a creditable rendition of Spice Girls songs.

work in Canary Wharf in Loodon's Docklands (and that includes The Independent). Yesterday a boat service started up between the pier at London Bridge and Canary Wharf, costing £1 each way and running half a

dozen times a day. This promises to be a popular alternative to the Docklands Light Railway especially with BZW joining Morgan Stanley and Credit Suisse in Docklands. Oglivy & Mather, the

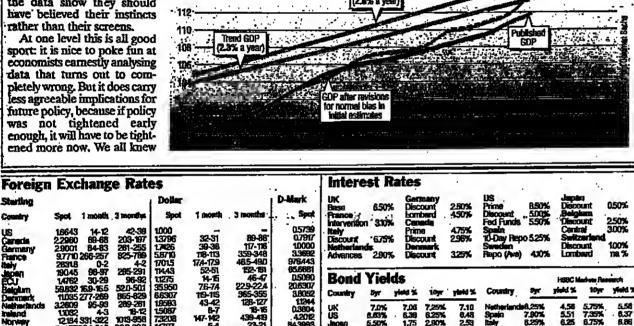
smooth advertising people, already have their own riverbus, H2O&M, which they brought with them six years ago when they moved to Docklands. Canary Wharf used to run a riverbus, but this went bust around the time Canary Wharf did, before the banks stepped in to the rescue. There is some mystery over whether O&M pays anything for its boat or whether it is a "sweetener

offered by Canary Wharf. There is another puzzle. Tidal Cruises, the company operating the new river boat service, is only contracted to serve people who work in Canary Wharf. How will they tell who is eligible? Will everyone in BZW have to have it stamped on their foreheads? We'll have to wait and see.

Andrey Carroll, one of the few analysts at struggling Manchester stockbroker John Siddall, is leaving to join a oumber of former colleagues at breakaway broker WH Ireland. The latter has snapped up a number of for-mer Siddall people, including Laurie Beevors, since it set up shop a year ago. This will not amuse Siddall's new owners, an AIM start-up called Integrated Asset Management, chaired by Swiss banker Ferdinand Lips.

John Willcock

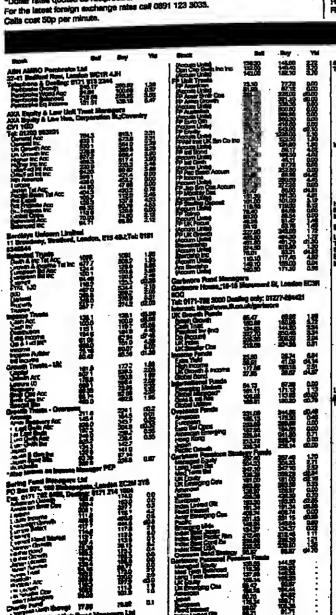
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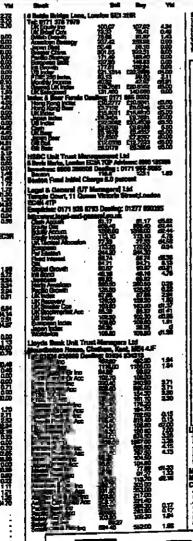


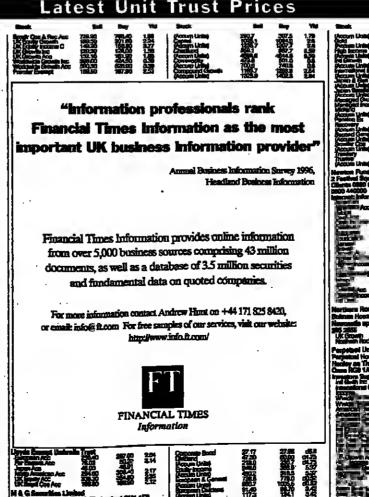
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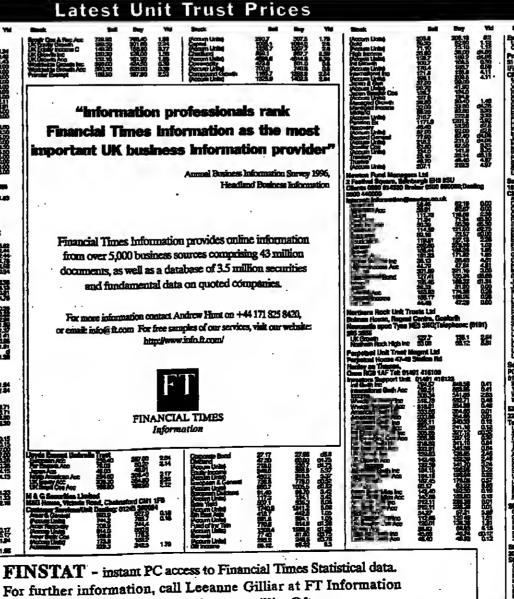
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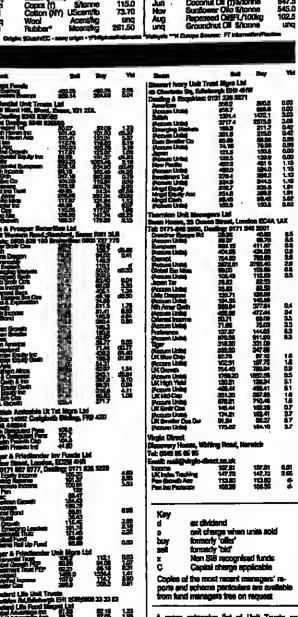






on +44 171-825-8430 or email: leeanne.gilliar@ft.com





Light Blues have the talent to darken Oxford's day

The most ancient of interna-tional enemies might be about to lock horns at Old Trafford again this week, but the oldest first-class fixture of all is at Lord's tomorrow when Cambridge meet Oxford in the 152nd Varsity match.

While many would say it is well past its sell-by date, and that the first class status accorded to the universities is an anachronmism in this professional age, it has nevertheless been an encouraging season for both teams. Oxford enjoyed their first win over a county since 1993 and their first over Glamorgan

DAVID FIELD

reports from Southampton

Hampshire 156 and 176

Australia win by 133 runs

The Australian captain, Mark Taylor, left for Manchester last

night a very contented man. His

batsmen are mainly in the runs. his quick bowlers are firing, and

everything is coming together nicely before the third Test at

Even the current wet weath-

or held off for the Australians

to wrap up only their second first-class tour victory in three

hours. An hour later steady rain

set in, and Taylor said; "We're

starting to turn the corner,

playing the sort of cricket I know

this team can play. Morale has

more out of this game than we

did, and did everything pretty well right. This is the kind of per-

formance we've got used to on

the last two tours, when we came

out and dominated games in the

first hour's play. And it's been

enjoyable. On other tours, when

we've played a lot of cricket,

you're praying for rain, but not

this time because the bad weath-

After a three-day wash-out

but Jason Gillespie, Mike

Kasprowicz and Paul Reiffel

bowled really well. They all

congratulated each other af-

terwards, and that's the sort of

team. We've got 17 guys to pick

get it down to 11. It's a good

thing to happen; it's something that hasn't happened on tour."

spirit I want to see in a touring

in our last match at Oxford, I an impressive and timely bowl-

fast men.

er has come so early.

"We couldn't have got much

been good since Lord's.

Australia 465-8 dec

Australians

set fair for

Old Trafford

since 1930, while Cambridge have lost only one of their sev-

The Light Blues have had the edge since 1827 when it all began, hut Oxford have been in control over the past five years, winning two games to one and posting a record 513 for 6 in the drawn match last July. This year Cambridge start marginal favourites by virtue of their stronger batting, led by Ed Smith who has been top of the national averages for much of the season following an outstanding 190 against the coun-

The final day against Hamp-

shire was really a straight fight

hetween Gillespie and

Kasprowicz for the one place

still open to debate in the Aus-

tralian side, with Reiffel seem-

ingly certain to play. Gillespie sent Hampshire into a dnwn-

ward spin with a spell of 3 for

7 in eight overs before lunch,

hut Kasprowicz took three wickets afterwards to complete

Hampshire resumed at 71 for

2. still 238 short of making

Australia bat for a second time,

hut once Jason Laney (30) fell

to Reiffel after 40 minutes the

rest of the innings ehhed away. Gillespie, 5 for 33 in 13 overs.

ran in fast and accounted for

Robin Smith, after a fighting ef-

fort of 44 in two and a half

hours. The erstwhile England

man was eventually undone by

the bounce and sliced a catch

to Shane Warne at wide third

John Stephenson, yorked for a

legs, and Kasprowicz knocked

out Simon Renshaw's middle

stump to complete a post-luncb

spell of 3 for 32 and round off

performance by laylor's

Stephenson had chosen to

long time and deny the Aus-

but, being shot out for 156 in

49 overs, it was a ploy which

the formalities.

The teams in the 152nd Varsity match will be captained by players who went to the same school. Adam Szreter reports

Another Cambridge hats- forward to tomorrow's match. man, Will House, will be battling with Smith for a place in Kent's team hefore the season is out, hut if either were in need of guidance hefore then, they could do no better than their own coach at Fenner's, Derek Randall. The Varsity match might not quite compare with the centenary Test of 1977 in Melbourne, and Randall's beroic 174, but the former Notting-hamshire man is looking

In addition to Smith and "It's a big game for us," Ran-dall said. "I'm a little worried House, Amurag Singh would be included in those three or four, that we've missed so much but Singh, the captain, has not had the best of seasons despite cricket in the past month because of exams and the weather, but confidence is high and we're looking forward to a good contest. There's always a lot of commitment in the Cambridge side and we're very lucky in that we've three or four top-line cricketers who could go on and came from the same school

a century against Essex. Like his opposite number at Oxford, Mark Wagh, Singh is a Warwickshire player and a product of King Edward's School, Birmingham. The last time both captains

was 1989, when Mike Atherton

of Manchester Grammar led Cambridge against John Craw-ley's elder hrother, Mark. But Wagh is quick to play down any talk of personal rivalry clouding the main issue: "It's no more than with any other player." he says. "We've generally played in the same side and always wanted the team to do well, and whoever gets runs hasn't real-

Orford will be heavily de-pendent upon Wagh, who scored centuries in each innings of the Glamorgan match and added another against Somerset at the weekend. He

is also a useful off-spinner, in support of the opening bowlers James Averis and Chetan Patel, who took a hat-triek against Hampshire earlier in

wagh himself is happy for Oxford to be cast in the role of underdogs. "I think Cambridge have got some very talented cricketers and they've cot a lot of experience which got a lot of experience which is abviously a bonus at this lev-el," he said. "But during the winter our guys invested quite a lot of time in this season, so this match means a lot to

Norman regains No.1 ranking

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Greg Norman regained his world No I ranking when he hirdied the final three holes for a one-structure victory over Dudley Hart in the St Inde Classic in Memphis. Tennessee.

Norman's Me finish, that included a 30-foot part on the 18th, snatched victory from Hart as he closed with a final-

Hart as he closed with a finalround five-under 66 and claimed his 17th career PGA Tour victory and first of the year.

The Australian finished 16 strokes below par with a 268 total at the rain-affected event, overtaking Flart, who closed with consentations.

with consecutive of and was in the club-house for an agonising

90 minutes with a two-stroke lead at 15 under is Norman mounted his late assault. Norman, who had a miserable dasters and US Open this year. will enter next month's British Open with his confidence bolstered by the victory. Winning is a great tonic," Norman said Norman collected \$270,000 (£168,00) for the victory, sur-passing \$11m (£6.8m) in career

Craig Parry and the runkic Robert Damron, who led after three rounds, finished tied for third at 14-under 270.

Seve Ballesteros, out of action with back trouble since quitting the Volvo PGA championship six weeks ago, begins his comeback at this week's Murphy's Irish Open.

Despite his health worries and his dismal 1997 record - nine missed cuts in 11 starts which has seen him drop to outside Europe's top 160 this season -Ballesteros still has not given up hope of being a playing captain when Europe defend the Ryder Cup in Spain in September.

"I will try to make the tean and depending on how I feel and what the situation is, I will make the decision that is in the best inerests of the side," he said. Ireland will host a regional qualifying competition for the

Open championship for the first time next year. County Louth has been cho-

sen as one of the 14 vennes. Other new choices are Blackmoor in Hampshire and Stockport, while Wildernesse in Kent is brought back into the list. Those dropping off after staging qualifying events next

Monday are North Hants, Park and Wilmslow. The Open itself was last staged in Ireland in 1951 when Max Faulkner won at Royal Portrush.

1998 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP Qualitying Beb Beau Desert, Blackmoor, Burnham and Betrow, Cartille, Copt Heath, County Lott, Convoor, Chi-berse, Handley Common, Moostown, Romford, South Herts, Stockgort, Wildhamesse.

St Jude scores, Digest, page 31

TODAY'S

play for England."

slip. Will Kendall and captain first-ball duck to complete a Lancashire pair, also fell into Gillespie's clutches. Shaun Udal (21) beld inspired by up the tourists as black clouds converged on the ground, but Warne spun a delivery round his **Flintoff**

Round-up

Andrew Flintoff, who captained the England Under-19 side in hat on a wet pitch on the first Pakistan last winter, made a career-best 70 from 101 balls to set day because "he wanted to do it for England". With rain foreup Lancashire's first Champicast, his plan was to bat for a onship victory of the season by three wickets against Worcestershire at New Road yesterday. from. The worrying thing is to tralians time in the middle Set a generous target of 236

in 64 overs by Tom Moody, Lancashire recovered from 64 for 5 and eventually got home with nearly 12 overs to spare. Flintoff hit 10 fours and a six in his sec-

ond Championship appearance. None the worse for a stomach problem which required bospital attention on Saturday, the Preston-born all-rounder virtually won the match in a seventh-wicket stand of 98 in 21 overs with Warren Hegg. Flintoff was then Ibw to David Leatherdale, but Hegg remained unbeaten on 54

Kevin Curran saved Northamptonshire who drew their one-innings game against Glouc-estershire at Luton. Curran took 4 for 69 to help restrict his former county to 180 for 7 declared, and then scored an unbeaten 32 as Northamptonshire crumhled to 58 for 6. But the weather had the final say, denying Gloucestershire a 12-point bonus.

There was no further play at Headingley between Yorkshire and Middlesex, and no play for the fourth day at Grace Road, Leicestershire and Warwickshire were awarded three points each.

Other sport sowts: Men's Home International & British Championships (Worthing). ENNIS: All England Champions



0891 881 485 COUNTY **ROUND UP** 0891 525 075

Surrey's spinning throwbacks

DAVID LLEWELLYN

reports from The Oval Surrey 201-9 dec & 123-6 dec Notts 73-1 dec & 120 Surrey win by 131 runs

Shades of the Fifties at The Oval as Saglain and Salisbury sent Nottinghamshire reeling to defeat yesterday. Just as Laker and Lock used to bemuse and heguile sides in the beady days when Surrey won everything, so leg-spinner Ian Salisbury and off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq tied Notts up in, well, knots.

Britannic Assurance

Vorthamptonshire won toss

(Final day of four)

County Championship

Northants v Gloucestershire

LUTON: Northamptonshire (3pts) drew with Gloucostershire (3) in a one-imings

Felt: 1-14 2-21 3-43 4-49 5-75 6-120

7-103. Did not bat: K P Sheeraz, J J Lawis, Bowling: Mohammad Avam 14-4-30-2; Taylor 12-1-40-0; Ourran 15-3-68-4; Boswell 10-S-14-0; Perbertly 3-0-19-0.

7 C Wahon b Levis
O J G Sales c Russell b Lewis
A L Penberthy libv b Smith
10 Riptey not out
Extras (b1, nb4)
Total (for 6, 19.3 overs)
Felt 1-0 2-2 3-13 4-18 5-18 6-37,

S A J Boswen. Bowling: Smith 10:3-36-3; Lews 9.3-6-21-3. Umpires: R Paimer and R A White.

SURREY - First lunings 201 for 9 dec (P J Franks 4-47). NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - First lunings 73

W M Noon c Thomas b Salisbury

Surrey v Nottinghamshire

HORTHAMPTONSHIRE

M 2 Laye bw b Smith R J Warren b Lews R J Bailey lbw b Smith ... M Curran not out

mer-best figures of 6 for 19 off 18.1 overs, the last wicket falling with five halls remaining. Championship win of the season

There was some thoughtful captaincy by Adam Hollioake, who kept the pressure on the hatsmen, switching the spinners from one end to the other and swapping his field around incessantly. By the end Surrey had all nine fielders around the bat, in addition to wicketkeeper Jamie Knott, for the spinners.

Nottinghamshire almost held out. Wayne Noon was ninth out after 80 minutes' resistance. Paul Franks was unbeaten at the Saqlain's impressive return was end after 28 minutes, but last 2 for 34 off 26 overs and it all man Mark Bowen fell to a

The whole thing was set up, heginning with Notting-hamshire's declaration on their overnight score. The plan was for Surrey to set a target of around 250, but they threatened to make a pig's ear out of it. While Surrey, thankfully, did not have to contend with what bas been termed flighted filth, they did bave to cope with

7-143 3-159 9-160.
Bowling: Kesprovicz 14.4-1-69-3; Gillespie 13-6-33-5; Warne 19-3-26-1; Reffel 8-1-27-1; Bevan 7-3-15-0.
Umpires: H O Bird and a Leadbester.

Other first-class matches

TAUNTON: Somerset beat Oxford University by an innings and 46 runs.

Oxford University won toss

OXFORD UNIV - First lonings 241 for 3 dec (M A Wagh 125no).

Somerset v Oxford Univ

SOMERSET - First limings (Overnight: 323 for 3)

No play yesterday

CANTERBURY (Final day of three): Kent 245 (M J Waler 62, E How 5-59) and 195 for 5 (N J Llong 99, O P Fulton 57); Cam-bridge University 187 (E T Smith 54; J 3 O Thompson 4-58). Kent draw with Cam-bridge University.

AON RISK TROPHY (one day): North Per-rott: Somerset 261, for 8; Worcestershire 263 for 6 () R Williams 93). Worcester-shire won by four wickets, Herow Mid-desex v Warnokshire. Metch abendoned.

M N Latinwell b Averis
K A Persons c Scrint b Byrne
M Burns c Avens b Battarbee
M E Tresorthick b Battarbee
J J O Kerr not out

some awkward stuff from the likes of Kevin Evans and At 66 for 5 it even looked as

if they might not have to declare but after lunch Knott managed Chris Lewis unleashed a flurry of cultured strokes which left a target of 252 off 59 overs.

Surrey are a bard side under the leadership of Hollioake. They seem to thrive on attrition, wearing down the opposition. Their lack of success this season is as much to do with the weather as it is with underachievement or over-confidence.

NUMBER

800

The see in pounds of a bet tak-en in London by Ladbrokes yesteday, at odds of 50-1, on fottenham winning the Premership next season, follow-ing speculation over their attempts to sign Juninho.



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CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Part: 1-14 2-48 3-78 4-79 5-88 5-95 7-101 8-117 9-120. 3cwling: 3icknell 11-3-30-1; Lawis 7-1-20-1; Saglein Mustrag 25-13-34-2; Salisbury 18.1-11-19-6; A J Holfrake 1-1-0-0 pires: J H Hampshire and N T Plews.

Worcestershire v Lancs WORCESTER: Lancastire (19pts) beat Worcestershire (0) by three wickets.

Lancashire won toss WORCESTERSHIRE - First innings 100 for 7 dec LANCASHIRE - First Innings Forfelted

Bowling: Shadford 2-1-51-0; Martin 9-1-23-0; Austin 2-3-15-0; Lloyd 6.5-0-42-0. LANCASHIRE - Second limings

LANCASHRE - Second Immas
N T Wood c Lampit o Newbort
M A Atherien c Rhodes b Sheriyar
J P Crawley low b Newport
G O Lloyd b Lampit
P C McKeown b Leatherdale A Filmoff tow b Leathertiale
10 Austin c and b Lampitz.

TW K Hegg not out

P J Marian not out

7-203.
Did not bet: G Chapple, O J Shadford.
Bowling: Newport 15-3-53-2; Shenyer
8-0-47-1: Lampkt 14-3-46-2; Lestherdele
11.1-0-70-2: Moody 4-0-20-0.
Umpiress V A Holder and T E Jesty.

No play yesterday LEICESTER: Leicestersbire (3pts) drew with Warwickshire (3). HEADINGLEY: Middlesex 150 for 3 fM R Ramprelash 76nd v Yorishire. Yorkshire (4pts) drew with Middlesex (3). Championship table

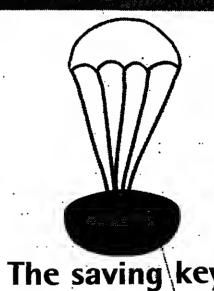
Tetley's Challenge Series (Final day of three) Hampshire v Australia

Somerset (11)....8 1 2 5 16 29 76 Verors 177 1 1 5 15 21 72 Verors 177 2 1 4 10 17 71 Surrey (3).....8 1 2 5 16 20 67 Durham (12).....7 1 2 4 14 23 65 Lancashkie (15)....8 1 4 3 12 21 58 Sussex (12).....8 0 3 5 12 30 57 Derbyshire (2)....8 1 4 4 10 29 51 Northants (16) ... 7 0 2 5 7 17 39 e 1996 pospors to brackets.

Starting today HAMPSHIRE - First Innings 158. Second XI Cham AUSTRALL – First Indings 465 for 3 dec (M E Waugh 173, M A Taylor 109; S J Ren-shaw 4-107). HAMPSHRE – Second lawings (Overnight: 71 for 2) (Four days: 11.0) **AON Rick Trophy**

Minor Counties (Two days: 11.0)

FOFT: Cheshire v Devon. JESMOND: Northumberla





Spurs increase ante for Juninho

Football

Confusion reigned over the Juninho transfer saga yesterday, with Tottenham and Atletico Madrid both claiming that they have agreed to sign the Brazil-

Tottenham, who have offered £11m, appeared yesterday morning to be favourites, as they were the only club to have had an offer officially accepted by Middlesbrough But the Spanish newspaper Marca reported that the Spanish side, who had a £7.5m offer termed "derisory" by the Middlesbrough chairman. Steve Gibson, have secured a deal that would cost them £145m including wages. The player is due to return from Brazil for pre-season training at the Riverside tomorrow. As far as Middlesbrough were

a bid that we have accepted."

can stay on for another year.

concerned yesterday, Tottenham

Bolton Wanderers will break their transfer record today by signing the Newcastle United He returned last night to complete the formalities. Elliott, who was entering the last year left-back Rohhie Elliott for £3.2m, writes Alan Nixon.

Elliott flew to meet Bolton's manager, Colin Todd, who is holidaying in Portugal, after a price was agreed between the clubs.

were the only chib in the race. that several clubs were interest-"It's obviously up to Juninho to meet up with Tottenham and see if he can agree personal terms with them," a spokesman for the club said. There were other clubs interested but Tottenham were the ones who have put in

Manchester United have been spared an appeal through the courts to keep the Czech in-ternational, Karel Poborsky, at Old Trafford. Poborsky looked to have fallen foul of the work permit clause that prevents renewal if a player has not ap-peared in a minimum 75 per cent of first-team games, but the Home Office has ruled Poborsky

Tomas Brolin, out of favour at Leeds, yesterday denied reports linking him with a £2m move to French champions, Monaco. The Swedish international's agent, John Smith, confirmed

Bolton set to sign £3.2m Elliott

of his Newcastle contract, will sign a four-year deal worth more than film. Newcastle will use the money towards funding future signings - possibly Paul Ince and Crewe's Danny Murphy.

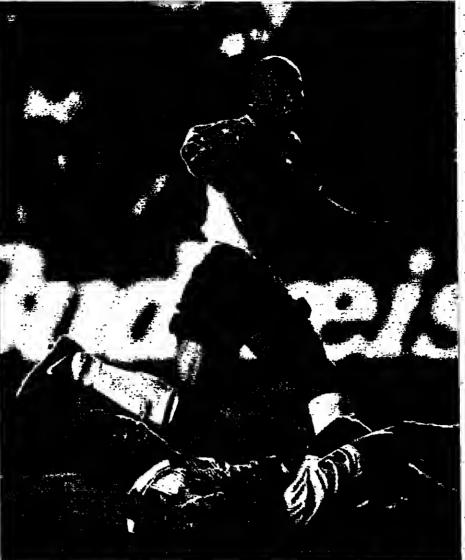
ed - but that his likely destination was not the south of Prance. The former Barnet manager

Terry Bullivant has been named as the new manager of Reading. Bullivant, 40, has been followed from Barnet by the former Charlton and Crystal Palace midfielder, Alan Pardew, as reserve-team coach. Lincoin's assistant manager, John Still, was named as Bullivant's

replacement at Barnet. Norwich City have signed the out-of-contract Oldham Athletic captain Craig Fleming m a £600,000 deal.

Brighton and Hove Albion are unhappy at their treatment from the Football League, which has called a meeting for 24 July to decide whether the Sussex club should be expelled after failing to pay a £500,000 security hond by an agreed deadline last mouth.

When we got the original wording [of the bond], it was unacceptable to us," a Brighton director, Martin Perry, said. "We could have lost the £500,000 if a game had been abandoned due to circumstances outside our control, like the weather. The next thing we knew, the League had issued a statement and we couldn't get hold of anyone on Friday evening to discuss it."



Ronaldo delivers the decisive blow and Brazil's second goel in their 3-1 victory over Bolivia in Sunday's Copa America final. The sea level in La Paz

world champions succeeded in overcoming the difficulties of playing at 3,600m above

Robson stays at Barcelona

ager is staying in Spain despite proposed transfer, and now its yesterday's confirmation of Louis van Gaal as the new coach of Barcelona. Robson, is free to move to Inter after who still has a year left on his two-year contract, will stay on to supervise new signings in a Fifa rules state that a player new coaching set-up at the Nou cannot buy out his contract for Camp club.

"T've asked Barcelona to use a new structure," said Van Gaal, the former Ajax coach, who will work alongside Robson in the new system: A third, as yet unnamed, coach, will manage the extensive junior team network and make joint decisions in . what Van Gaal described as "a kind of triumvirate".

the media the short term is important - but for me the long term is important."

Robson said: "I can tell you that Louis van Gaal will get 100. per cent support, loyalty, and honesty and, if there is anything I can do to make his joh easier, then he can rely on me."

Van Gaal added be would like to keep Ronaldo, the top Brazilian striker who is wanted by Internazionale of Italy, "I'd like to continue with Ronaldo." Van Gaal said. "If he goes, I'll have to find somebody who fits

Bobby Robson will remain at Fifa will decide whether Bercelona next season - which Ronaldo is free to move from will disappoint Celtic, who had Spain to Inter. The sport's hoped to name him as their new _ world governing body has re-head coach this week _ ceived an official request from The former England man- the Italian chib to investigate the players' status committee will we to decide if the 20-year-old paying over £17m to free himself from his Barcelona contract.

-the purposes of obtaining an international transfer, and the Spanish Football Federation has refused to issue a transfer certificate as the deal has not been negotiated by the two clubs.

Despite reports linking him to a coaching role at Sheffield United, Chris Waddle is eager to secure the managerial post at Burnley vacated by the de-The Dutchman added: "Ror" parture of Adrian Heath to be media the short term is im— Everton as assistant manager. Since being freed by Sunder-land, the former England international has had talks about playing deals with Bradford City and Barnsley, while Stockport have short-listed him for their managerial vacancy.

. Burnley have also made an approach to the former Everton manager Joe Royle, but he is-not yet ready to return to

West Ham are poised to sign the Hungarian international goalkeeper, Szabolcs Safar, from the Budapest club, Vasas.

RESULTS

PONTEFRACT

3.45: 1. SUNYEZ LA TRACE U Carolii 6-1: 2. Mysticiam 5-1: 3. Perfect Hammony 7-4 fav. 9 ran. 24, 3, (R Fahey, Mattor), Tobe: £7.90: £1.90, £2.30, £1.10. Dual Forecest: £24.20. Computer Straign Forecest: £35.46. Trio: £23.10.

100: 223.10.
3.15: 1. CAPTAIN FLINT (R Winston) 20-1;
2. Digital Option 11-2; 3. Ocean Breeze
4-1 co fav. 10 ram. 4-1 co favs Fortune Hopper (4dt), Alistenton. 15, 1½. (A Smith, Bev-

per (4th), Austernat. 15, 1/A. A. Smith, Bey-erley). Total: E27-60; E7-50, E2-20, E1-10, DE. £106-10. CSF: £126-27, Tricast: £502-98, Tro: £67-80. 2.45: 1. WATCH THE FIRE (R Muller) 16-1; 2. Farma Again 4-6 fay; 3. Lady Diceis 7-1. 5 ran, ½, 5-11 Barriss, Newmarket), Total £10.60; £3,30, £1.10, DF: £10,30, CSF;

24.76. 4.15: 1. THE RICH MAN (M HIS) 11-4: 2. Cumbrian Carras 9-2; 3. Lagend of Love 16-1. 6 ran. 9-4 for Sweet Revent 65th; ½, 3. (6 His), Lambourd, Tote: £2.80; £1.80, £2.20. DF: £9.20. CSF: £12.70. Non Run-

ner Minnah, 4,45; J. SILENCE REIGNS (K Darley) 8-13 fax; 2, Top 9-1; 3. Understody 12-1, 7 ran, 1½, 1½, (M Store, Newmarko), Tote: £1,80; £1,10, £2,10. Dual Forecast: £4,20, CSF:

E5.87.
5.15: 1. MARTON MOSS (K Cartey) 6-1;
2. Two Williams 16-1; 2. Rich Choice 7-2 fav. 9 ran. 2%, 1. (T Enstedy, Matton), Tote; E8.70; E3.60, E2.20, E1.90. DF: E32.20, CSF; E36.23. Tro: E207.40.
5.45: 1. CASHMIRE: (P Doel 5-1; 2. Indior Ben 6-1; 3. Maran Marigold 7-4 fav. 6 ran. 3½ 2. U L Eye. Thirsk: Tote: E6.50; £2.30, E2.00, Dual Forecast: £21.20, CSF; £29.70.

Placepot: £38.20. Quadpot: £7.0). Place 6: £24.75. Place 5: £18.18.

SOUTHWELL 2.30; 1. PROSE (Dane O'Neil) 4-1; 2. Rico Suave 8-11 tay; 3. Palloppierg 12-1, 7 ran, 7, 1%. (R. Hermon, East Everleigh). Tote: £5.10; £1.50, £1.10, DF: £2.90, CSF:

25.10; £1.50, £1.10, Dr. £2.90, GSP: £7.24, 3.00; £ Mildror Four Sport (# Pol-lard 4-7 far; £ Mysterium 9-2; 3. Ball-Por 5-1. 6 ron. 10, 9. (M.Johrstor, Middleham). Tota: £2.10; £3.10, £2.10, Dr. £3.10, CSP: £3.23,

3.30: 1. OUR MAIN MAN (G Parter) 20-1: 2. Mistor Aspecto 9-2: 3. Big Bang 5-1. 9 ran. 3-1 fav Goodwood Lass. 31, 1/4. (R Whitney, Wetherby). Tote: £25.60; £4.70, £2.00, £2.70. DF: £67.40, CSF: £97.22. In-

23.30. DF: 11.10. CSF; 24.180. Incast 1933.67. True: £123.00. 4.30: 1. CHINAIDER (J Qurm) 10-1; 2. Dayrathee 8-1: 3. The Not Saire 7-1. 9 cas. 5-7 fav Gymernis Mystery (50th). 1%, 1%, U J O'Neal, Pennon. Totas. £5.10: £1.40. £2.30. E2 60. DF: £55.80. CSF: £81.23. Inc. £96.20.

5.00: 1. MONTE CAVO (G Bardwell 9-2

n to:; 2. People Direct 9-2 x to; 3. Serate-ga Red T-1; 4. Mustarg 6-1, 16 cm. 1%, 1%, 1%, thi Britisin, Newmarket). Total 1% 1%, tM Britain, Newmarket). Total £3.20; £1.70, £3.50, £1.90, £2.50, DF. £7.70, CSF: £23.82, Tricost: £144.90, Tric

Placepot: £65.30. Quadpot: £48.80, Place 6: £95.46. Place 5: £81.43. WINDSOR

8.40: 1. QUEEN'S BESENIA (I Querni 10-1: 2. Ben Gunn 7-1: 3. Venborough Lad 7-1: 4. Shouldbegrey 16-1. 18 ran, 13-2 if te:s Firsbury Fiver, Whaspered Mesby, 1%, ns. 19 Coles. Twee: £10.40; £2.10, £2.00, £2.20, £3.30. DF: £42.20, CSF: £69.66. Ti cast: £511.60. Tro: £56.30. T.10: 1. ELIA Wirnes Cook) 16-1: 2. Ten T.10: 1. ELIA (Arree Cod): 18-1: 2. Tempus Fugit 6-1: 3. Aurigny 6-5 fax. 9 ran. 1%, 1%, 1%, 10.00 Hurtrigaton). Tota: £24.10; £3.50, £1.80, £1.20. DF: £83.70. GSF: £103.05. Tro: £29.00.

MUSSEL BURGH 6.55: 2. VINTAGE TAITINGER (I McAdey) 7-1: 2. Tribly 11-6 fax: 3. Brodesen 5-1. 7 ren. 2. 1%. IJ Colde). Total: £7.20: £3.60. £1.50. DF: £6.60. CSF: £13.01. After a stew-

Robert Winston, the 17-year-old Irish rider who did not have a single winner to his credit at the start of this season, took his score to 12 when he recording a 15-length vic-tory on the 20-1 shot Captain Flint at Pontefract vesterday. The veteran trainer Alf Smith, who saddled his first winner on the Flat for three seasons, was full of praise for Winston, who was having his first ride for the Beverley stable. "He rode the horse very well and carried out my instructions to the letter, said Smith, who retained Captain Flint without a bid at the subsequent auction. Winston's employer. Richard Fahey, was also successful. The Butterwick trainer sent out his 16th winner when Suivez La Trace made a winning debut in the First Division of the Maiden Auction Stakes. A twohands of John Carroll, Suivez La Trace is entered in the Heinz 57 Stakes at Leopardstown in August. That entry was a bit of a shot in the dark." Kevin Ryan, assistant to Fahey, said, "But he is a nice horse, who has always pleased us at home. You just never know how they are going to cope with this testing ground until they run on it."

Sham causes fear in Ryan's quarter

Racing **GREG WOOD**

There is an exception to prove any worthwhile rule, and when it comes to the reluctance of bookmakers to sponsor anything but handicaps with a minimum of 25 runners, look no further than the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown on Saturday. The determination of Coral to holt their name to the 112-year-old race with a hyphen is a little cheeky'- rather like the claim in a recent Epsom racecard that the Vodafone Oaks was first run in 1779, about two centuries before the invention of mobile phones - but there can be no doubt about the exceptional quality of the small field which will line up for the £250,000

main event this weekend. Bosra Sham, described recently by Henry Cecil as the best racehorse he has trained. Benny The Dip, the Derby winner, and Pilsudski, who won the Breeders' Cup Turf at Woodhine last November, are the most immediately familiar names. But with Sasuru, a Group One winner in France last time out, and Allied Forces, successful in the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot, also entered, you could ask little more of the first important meeting

of the generations. The early beiting from the sponsors suggests that it is a tus-sle which the older horses will win, with Benny The Dip, the only three-year-old in the field, the 9-2 third-favourite, behind Bosra Sham, odds-on at 4-6, and Pilsudski on offer at 4-1.

HAMILTON

HYPERION 2.15 Pallium 2.45 Fast Franc 3.15 Leading Princess 3.45 Sermation 4.15 AUNT DAPHNE (nap) 4.45 Wildmoor

GOUNG: Govel

STALLE: [volf - neader, remander - starch ede.

DEAW ADVANTAGE: Right for 5f and 6f.

Hight-hand uncludating cruurs with pear-chaped loop.

Course is N of town on BTOT1. Hamilton Word station I service from Glasgow III. A DREISSION: Cabe 12; Grandsmad and Paddock 2f (54 for OAPs, disabled & surderts; Accompanied underlige free all enclosures. CAE PARE: Proc.

BLINERERED FIRST TIME: Ellember, Just Nobby & Up The Chrosta (2, 15).

BLINERERD FIRST TIME: Ellegher, Just Posety or up line-Clarete (2, 16). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Fast Franc (2, 15) was at Folkestore on Friday, Monaco Gold (4, 15) & Trying Times (4, 15) was at Hamkon on Westnesday. LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Harrange (2, 45) & Flying Barold (4, 15) was 170 miles by M Chamon from Upper Lamboure, Berlotger.

2.15 ROSEBANK AMATEUR REDERS' HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 edded 5f

60000 AYE READY (332) O Noon 4 9 0 Miss D Carter (7) 4 60 550 SOUTHERN RULE (96) (3) P Moore, 10 9 0

9 60-301 Southeast Role (Sept pp 7 Moore) 30-91 Mele L Hickatoch (7) 6 BETTRICE 3-1 Md Gry, 7-2 Tropical Bouch, 9-2 Sundey Mail Too, 6-1 Manjorte Rose, Politon, Austher Hightman, 8-1 Biff-Em. 20-1 others

2.45 KIRKMURHILL SELLING STAKES (QUAL-IFIER) (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2YO 8F

9 - S declared - 9 declared - 8 February - 9 declared - 8 February - 9 declared - 9 House, Side Monkey, 6-1 Ribble Assembly, Up The Clarets, 20-1 Ellember, Jest Nobby, 25-1 others

3.15 CELTIC PATRON DAY LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 6f

331 FFER) (CLASS F) ±3,500 BODGO 210 or
331 FAST FRANC (4) 5 C Williams 9.3 J Windows 8
05 ELEMBER (3b) Wildroom 8 11 Lazonot 8 8
03 MARMACE (7) M Chamon 8 11 J Fortune 2
00 JUST NORSY (57) N Tarter 8 11 J To Trance 2
00 JUST NORSY (57) N Tarter 8 11 J To Trance 2
00 FERRE ASSENSEY R Fabry 8 11 T T E Duran 15 9
FERRE ASSENSEY R Fabry 8 11 J TO TO TO TO THE CLASETS (5) I 1 O'Nel 8 11 J Merican 18
ANNICATIONELLISASS 0 Norter 6 8 Duran Mother (5) 4
00 BEHNED RE VEL (10) Mr M Revoty 8 B A Calibrate 9
- 9 declared -

-82605 SURDAY MAR. TOO (20) (CD) Miss L Perest S 9 13

Of the remainder, Sasuru is an 8-1 chance, with Allied Forces rated the least likely winner on 14-1, but the latter colt's presence, expected to be confirmed by the Godolphin operation this afternoon, would none the less hold great significance for Willie Ryan.

The man who rode a brave and intelligent race to win the Derby on Benny The Dip less than a month ago would have been replaced by Lanfranco Dettori, John Gosden's stable jockey, hut with Dettori's commitment to Godolphin taking precedence, the way seems clear for Ryan to take the reins once more.

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Tropical Beach (Hamilton 2.15) NB: Ansellman (Chepstow 3.00)

Ryan was reluctant to comment on the prospect in any detail yesterday, since the ride is not even officially available until Allied Forces is declared a definite runner. "The less said about it the better from my point of view at the moment." he said. "We'll see what happens in the next couple of days, hut obviously I'd be delighted to keep the ride and I'm sure that Mr Knight [Benny The Dip's owner] and Mr Gosden know that. He'll go there with a hig shout, he's a three-year-old gettig the weight allowance and the drop back to 10 furlongs will be major part in deciding what may no trouble to him even though he got the mile and a half well enough in the Derby."

As for Benny The Dip's most serious rival. Ryan's long attachment to Henry Cecil's yard has given him personal knowledge of Bosra Sham's capahilities, and he is under no illusions about the task facing her rivals on Saturday. "I rode her at work just the other day," he said. "She's a filly we all respect enormously and she's definitely the one we all have to beat."

With the Irish Derby sitting just six days earlier in the calendar, the Eclipse is not necessarily the most obvious target for an Epsom winner, and those who made the trip in recent years enjoyed mixed fortunes. Nashwan, in 1989, was an easy winner, but Erhaab, in 1994, and the considerably more talented Reference Point, 10 years ago, failed to follow up after winning at Epsom. Reference Point was beaten by Mtoto, who, like Bosra Sham, arrived fresh from victory in the Prince of Wales's

Stakes at Royal Ascot. The going at Sandown was of-ficially good to soft yesterday the rain has clearly not been quite so persistent as that in another part of the London suburbs-though Andrew Cooper. clerk of the course, admitted that "if there is any further rain

it will turn soft pretty sharpish". That might be to the liking of Sasuru, who won the Prix d'Ispahan on good to soft at Longchamp last time out, but even Geoff Wragg's most devoted followers will surely hope that the ground will not play any prove to be one of the most exciting and significant races of the

3.45 SUNDAY MAIL HANDICAP STAKES (QUAL-IFIER) (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 1f

4.15 RIVER CLYDE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS

9 declared -SETTING: 5.2 Monaco Gold, 3-1 Tying Times, 4-1 Philipper, 5-1 Aurel Depicte 6-1 Manual Moon, 8-1 Citiers, 20-1 Carte's Glid, 25-1 Others.

4.45 CAMPSIE FELL HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 370 1m 4f

ley Perroses Set 10to. BETTPRO: 7-4 Questes City, 5-2 Wikinsons, 11-4 Sertsey, 7-1 Sedie Eljon, 10-1 Margamen, 33-1 Sholley Princess

60' DANGERG CORMORANT (662) P MOTESTI 49 13

2.00 Nordic Breeze 2.30 Farewell My Love 3.00 So intropid 3.30 Edna's Cift (nb)

4.00 Menga 4.30 Cugina

GOING: Good to Soft. STALLS: STAIGHt course – stands side; round course – inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High up to 1m.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High up to 1m.

Il Left-hand, undelsting course with a straight mile.

Il Course to on A666, Cheprious station (Carthif - Cioucester line) 1m. ADMISSION: Cash 514; TRICTRIES 10 (CAPS 55). CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: R Hassons - 14 winners from 118 runners give a success ratio of 11.9% and a loss to g 51 level state of \$45.71. Il Arbethand: - 8 winners, 38 runners, 21.1%, +541.00; L Commail - 7 winners, 13 runners, 58.9%, +59.61; B Hills - 6 winners, 24 runners, 25.5%, +53.13.

LEADING JOCKETTS: J Redd - 12 winners, 77 rides, 15.6%, 431.48; L Dettart - 9 winners, 31 runners, 20%, 50.32; 8 Waltoworth - 9 winners, 56 ides, 16.1%, +58.13; T Quinn - 9 winners, 73 rides, 12.3%, 456.00.

BLINKERED FIRST TRUE: Myrmidess (3.00).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Runn In The Family (3.00) won xt Warwick on Tuesday.

ONG-DISTANCE HUNNERS: Myranidon (3,00) has been sent 220 miles by Mrs L Soubby LUNG-UISTANUE HUNNERS: Hyrmdon (3.00) has been sent 220 miles by Mrs L Stabbe from Hutton Sessay, North Yorkshire; Westenner Magie (3.00) sent 218 miles by Mr Easterby from Steriff Hutton, North Yorkshire; Asselfman (3.00), Eduar's 64R (3.30) & Bolley (2.30) sent 191 miles by J Berry from Cockerham, Langushire; Dayella (4.30) and 164 miles by I Under from Newmarket, Soffolt; Apache Star (4.30) sent 164 miles by I Wrest from Newmarket, Soffolt; Apache Star (4.30) sent 164 miles by I Wrest Star (5.00) sent 164 miles by I Goden from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.10) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.100) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.100) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.100) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.100) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket, Suffolk; Kallana (4.100) sent 164 miles by L Carmani from Newmarket

200 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE SERIES GENTLEMEN'S AMA-TEUR HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,000 edded 1m Penalty Val-

\$15850 CLURD UP (4) (D) (As E) Williams) P Dairs 4 10 8 July A Dames (4) 8 V (5405-84) PR \$15859400 (200) (CD) (4/3 / 8) Treating (3 8) Balling 8 10 8 July 7 Treating (4) 8 V (24) (Family Record 8 Milliams 5 10 5 July 7 Leifond 6 (00403 ASTERIX (128) (CD) (A/4 / 28) (A/4 /

9 0-0406 SARRIN (27) (D) 94° Terry Waters J Long (11.9 7 July 19.00) July 9 J Edmands (4) 2
10 00000/ MOULDIZER (MSA) (ASIN) (May K Osembry May S Wallers 7.9 7 July V Estambats (4) 10
10 10000/ MOULDIZER (MSA) (Asin) (May K Osembry May S Wallers 7.9 7 July V Estambats (4) 10
10 dischared – — 38 incomes—
14therum weight 9st 7to, Trus hundings seight; Moutanin 9st 5tb.

BETTING: 9-4 Galaing Example, 3-1 Nordio Brenze, 6-1 Hellins, Antanth, 7-1 Super Serenards, 10-1
Proved Brigades, Starms, 14-1 others
1996; Super Serenade 7 10 7 Mr.J Theister (4) 6-1 (G Baiding) delver (S) 7 con

1996. Super Serence 7 10 7 Mr.J. Thatcher (4) 6-1 (6 Balding) drawn (6) 7 nm
POPRM GUIDE

Louis Baker, who has partnered four jump where and 13 in Arab races, note a fine race to gain his first. Plet success when Sharetike ToUMBPLE went in at Goodwood 18 drays ago and the combination can supplement the gains off a 4th higher mark. Peter Mision's charge is not the easiest of indee but was always gloing well at the Suces track and, leading inside the final furiong, ran on strongly to defeat Cuben Reef, the market leader, a length and a half. Most of Shirting Esample' a rane hasts are out of form and the pack of them could be Nordic Brease. Martin Pipe's charge last not been out on the Flat since a Southwell second to Guif Sheads in January but has been kept on the go over timber and will not lack for Shraes. Nordic Brease are that to Shedow Loader in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle at the Chettenham Festival, while he was successful at Newton Abbot and Utusertar in May and was conceding the best part of two stone to the winner when besidn eight lengths by Mr Mortarly on a return to the Staffordham course. Heades, a fair lith of 13 bettind Sharp Rebuff at Warwick a week ago on his Sirts appearance since a fourth of 17 to Ashthy Hill at Salebury in October – Prood Brigadier a long way back an eighth — can ston figure. Sulle May will be much straighter for her Nottingham run behind Diamond Covan and has a good rider at Laste Jefford.

Screedien: SHURNIS EXAMPLE

2.30 SUMMER SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £3,000 added 3YO Im Penalty Value £2,234

Proceed that the USA'S of a Substance (SET 14 IR Modges death (S) 8 ran

FORM EUROPE

Proceeding is the only one with recent withing form in this eight-number line-up, defeating three-search half a length in a seven-furious claimer here 18 days ago when a 20-1 shot. As that was only her second race, sine ought to progress further but FRICEWELL MY LOVE, with the race conditions in her facur, looks a better proposition. Paul Cole's (By, a winner at Mausselburgh and Goodwood (good to suff) at 1995, has finished unplead in her four outlings the season but sive stambled on feeking the statis when their in a vecy behind Levided at Brighton last one and sive pould be worth another chance going without the head-gear here.

Selection: FAREWELL MY LOVE

ļ	3	100	Penalty Value £5,378	*
	1	1030-5	FORD ENERGICE (1.7) (D) Commander 6 () Martent H Cardy 4 10 ()	8
	2	460502	WESTCOURS MAGIC (5) (0) (Mr K Hodgeon) M W Easterby 4 9 11	4
	3	-14000	REPERTORY (11) (7) (N/ M & Sounders) M Sounders 4 9 10 R Price 1	٥
	.4	20567	MYRMOON (10) (b) (At Marinel World) Mrs L States 384 I F. Bone 1	6
1	5	531012	PATRASSH (RRE) (10) (04 (BF) (Mr R Howard Thomas) D Hayon Jones 5 9 1	g
	В	140200	ANSELLMAN (4) (CD) (Assets of Watlord) J Berry 7 9 1. P Femily (B) 11	Ē
1	7	351605	MISTER JOLSON (6) (3) Our Bob Froomer R Hodges 8 8 12 Dettod	3
	8		SO INTREPRO (RE) (2) (IV. A. F. A. Hayward) J Bradley 7 8 10	
-	9	05054	BAJAH ROSE (6) (5) (b) (69) (Mr C McKernel M Sternhard 5 8 10	6
1	19	-:0335	LUNGO MEST CAG OR SALS PA Barrato N Mende 4 6 6	2
- 1	11	221205	MANSUS (182) (LO) (CA (Constury Record States Limited & Currengiam-Brown 3 8 5	_
	!		Morte Days (3)	g
1	12	00-110	CAUDA EDURA (10) (D) (Ak Michael A Foy) M Channon 3 8 5	ō
-	O	167331	RURS IN THE RANKEY (7) (III) RAY Geoffey C Greenwood) G McCourt 5 7 13 (Ted	
	-		R Plates (5) 12	
				•

- 13 declared -92/TIMS: 5-2 Westcourt Megic, 5-1 Femil Bebrace, 7-1 Rans in The Family, 8-1 Myrmidon, Histor Josea, Bejan Rose, 10-1 Intends, 50 Intropis, 12-1 others 1990: American 5-8 5 G Cards 10-1 U Berry drawn (3) 7 ran FORWA GUIDE
RUINS IN THE FAMILY, 8 consistent fely, comes here in good heart after her decisive War-

with win a week ago and, although penalised 7th, still goes off buttom weight and the good claimer Richard Mullen takes off 5th. This is a tougher race but she might be good enough

to follow up. Westioourt Nagle scored five times as a two-year-old in 1995, his first success coming in a Newcestle seller and the lest in Used grade at Ayr, while he wound up that competin with a second in the Group Three Commatis Stakes at Ascot. Successful in Field Machael Stakes at Haydock first time up last term, he has failed to score since but showed signs of a form revival lest time in going under a length and a haif to Charlie Staett at Chesties and he could go close. Winner of her first two starts fact term, at Northgham and Haydock good to solly. Front Embrace will be the better for the opening Sandon fifth behind Johnny Stacceto, but she finding more than two lengths behind Westcourt Magnetium and the property were uniformed and provide ance at Processor if there is Sandon when the start was a finding to be set to the processor of the first to Sandon when the processor is therefore and manner and the set was the set was the set of set of the the last Myrmidon and Caude Emilia in arrests when fifth of 18 behind Prince Dome at Ascot and seems likely to confirm that running although Mymidon is the type likely to improve for the first-time biliniers. Indianah has won twice at Beth this season but its 600 wome in with Lumar Milet, who was a close-up third to him on the second occession, Repertary sprang a 50-1 surprise when inching out 10 The Roof at Newtoning (good to film) in April on his reappearance, following with a fourth behind Averti at Bath but has not shown anything in three runs since.

Selection: RUNS IN THE FAMILY

3.30 BREAM CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 2YO 6f Penelty Value £2,513

O BELLOW (RIE) (RD) (Boyr) Maccionad-Bugherian & Partnersh H Morison 9 0 __ C Ruther

COO KRNS DARRUS (RIE) (3) (Air E.Ichn Penyl R Hannon 9 0 __ Dane Or/Nell

THE IMPOSTER (RIE) (Air O Murray Smith) O Murray Smith 1 1 __ __ C Lowether (7)

SKRS (RIE) (101) (Rary Maters Cartering M Charmon 8 6 __ ___ P Murray (3)

HI RUDOUF (Mr H.) Mannersh A Chambertan 6 3 ____ D Biggs HE RUDOLLF (Mr. H. J. Marmers); A Cremberlen 8.3. EDRA'S CRFT (RES) (24) (D) (Mr. Sern Benn); J. Sern 8.2. PERSUM) FORTUNE (127) (Mr. G. L. Bener) W.G. M. Turner 8.0.

BETTIME: 13-8 Persion Fortune, 3-1 Setts, 7-2 Educ's GIC, 11-2 (log Derice, 12-1 Bellow, The in powder, 26-1 Hi Redol 1996: Without Friends (he) 2 9 O J F Egen 5-2 Ser (Mrs.), Studies) drawn (1) 6 con

FORM SUIDE

NIME DARRUS has yet to reach a place in three outings but he shaped well at Bath on Saturday, finishing seventh of 18 to market leader Brancon Frank ofter drilling from 14-1 to
25-1. It as likely that three is a race to be won with the Persian Bold cost — who is the instfool of a granddaughter of 1966 Casts herency Paloris — and this might well be it. Edma's

SET's three more have all been in setters, winning on her debut early last month. She folcert's trees neces now as been in select, winning on her debut early stat month, She holished with a five-length second in the same grade at Wolvertempton and accepting if 1 to Tencred Times on a return to Thirsk, Jack Berry's filly gais 12th from King Darlus and could pose a threat. Each so, Penates Fortame, who gets 21th (naturing state Corson's 70 plann) from the selection, looks the main threat. Penates fortame ran as well as could be expected for a 50-1 chance when last of five to isdambed at Bath and had also brought up the rear behind True Teller at Brighton before that - losing his chance at the start - but was sestul in a Southwell seller in May, making all to defeat Ellenbrook (three wins sin

4.00 WORTHINGTON DRAUGHT BITTER MADEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,738

Princess, 33-1 Qujun 2990: Cops Pettle 3 B 9 7 Nes 8-1 (Mrs J Coof) drawn (4) 10 ran

MENGAAB can open his account. John Guide:

MENGAAB can open his account. John Gosden's Sher Hawk colt, third to Fantastic Fellow at York last September on his only Juvanile start, disappointed when favourite and an eight-longth fourth to Banbury at Redicar on his return but lied a furlong out when a four-and-a-heif-length 5th (of 10) to Bombezine in a good malden at Newmerhat 11 days eigh. Persona Promi Hoeven, likely to be seen to better advantage now he tackless a strotter to and is back in malden company, is the one to last. Fourth to Single Empire at Kempton (1m 3f malden) on his return, Pennys From Heaven took the same placing at Heart Of Affinor's race at Windsor (1m 3f 13Syda) and an third to Card's Pearl at Goodwood (1m 4fin those test two displays both in handloops. Lice Cumoni's debutante Kallama is half-sister to duel 1996 Derby victor Kellyesi, while Dick Hem's newcomer Meshwell is a Caerleon half-sister to many winners including ibn Bey and Roseate Tern. Selection: MENGAAB

4.30 MIDDLE LODGE FILLIES' STAKES (HANDICAP) (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,647

- B declared
48's must weight 7st 10th. The handicap weight 4mab 7st 8th.

BETTIME: 15-8 Seattle Sering, 3-1 Boyelin, 6-1 Apache Star, Nabile, 7-1 Cagins, 6-1 Tol Tol, 12-1.

Calyyeo Lady, 16-1 Ahasb

1998: Desmited (at 3 9 7 R Haigher 10-3 (D Lody) down (2) B ran

FORM GUIDE

Desmita, who makes her handicap dobut, got off the mark in strong fashion when coming home by 10 lengths at Goodwood logod to soft) and will propess further, but then
again so will SEATTLE SWINNE and she gets a valuable 10'b from the top weight. Seattle.

Swing struck form in good sayle on the soft at Windoor-when shouldering top weight in her
first handicap and is 5th lighter today. Caginan, runner-up to Stilect hare on her first coing since October, and Mabile, in the frame in both her runs this term, appeal most of the
others.

5.00 LIONS LODGE STAKES (HANDICAP) (CLASS E) £4,025 added

Albiroum weign: 7st 10th. True handisip weign: Shy Paddy 7st 6th.
BETTING: 5-4 Madin Star, 11-4 Cecneir, 7-2 General Newton, 20-1 Sandy Floor, Bridle's Pride, 251 Spring Marathou. 38-1 Sky Paddy
1990: Marathou. 38-5 Gentwell 5-2 for IR Curtisi drawn (2) 7 mm MEDIA STAR, Itali-brother to the smart ève luna, is on 10st on his first handicap but he did come home by 11 lengths in a Redest mades (1m 67) 11 days ago, making all. An underused four-year-old, John Gloodon's charge will get even better and should stay well. He has a round action, so should act on the ground and as the only one of the seven-strong facility for any property of the seven-strong facility for any property of the seven-strong facility in the seven-strong facilit

has a round action, so should act on the ground and a limit only one selection will be Gammar, still a majder field in form at present. Perhaps the pick of the opposition will be Gammar, still a majder but third to listoff as Follostone on his tetum and fourth to Seisla at Notangham. Gamer that the contract of the selection of al Mouldan has not won on the level wines 1993 but was numer-up fine times lest term ones demoted - and won three hurdle races in 1996-97. He did not run badly, ethough
unplaced, in the Ascot Stakes a formight ago.

Selection: MEDIA STAR

Fire burns fingers of Fame's supporters

Fame Again was a costly loser team have been going through for favourite backers at Ponte-fract yesterday. The Lynda Judy Woodward, Banks' travfract yesterday. The Lynda
Ramsden-trained filly attracted elling head girl, said. "Our shot falled by half a length to

beat Watch the Fire, the 16-1 outsider of the five runners. Watch the Fire was a wel-shock when winning at South-

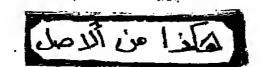
on-course bets totalling more horses have just started to fire than £24,000, but the odds-on again now. We were more hopeful than confident today, but the soft ground came right for her." Our Main Man sprang a 20-1

come winner for the Newmar- well yesterday. The favourite, the odds-on favourite, Sir Mark ket trainer Jack Banks, whose Goodwood Lass, an eight-Prescott's Rico Suave (8-11).

length winner at Wolverhampton a fortnight ago, drifted badly in the market from 6-4 to 3-1 before finishing last of the nine numers in the hands of George Duffield, who later re-ported to the stewards that the filly resented the kick-back. In the opening race, Duffield was beaten into second place on

RACING SERVICES 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTARIES PESULIS CHEPSTOW 94 HAMILTON 0891 261 970 Calle care Step per minute. [11.5 plc; Screens 9 FC2A 47]

* THE INDEPENDENT





Britain's Mark Petchey, who was stretched to breaking point by the former champion Boris Becker on No 1 Court yesterday

Novotna swimming against the tide

GUY HODGSON

Like grapes in a supermarket, the women's singles at Wimhledon is becoming seedless. Six fell on Sunday and Monica Seles followed yesterday, which makes the theory that the women's game has less depth

than a 20p piece as difficult to stand up as the coin itself.
Jana Novotna, Mary Pierce,
Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Mary Joe Fernandez did not do laps of honour when they took their appointed places in the last

nearly amounts to a shock in the current climate. No one more so than Novot-

na, who exudes such a fragile air since her collapse in the 1993 fi-oal that you fear she might lose after she's shaken hands on a beaten opponent. She defeated Gala Leon Garcia 6-4, 6-2 although if that suggests a commanding performance the impression is wrong. Advantage Miss Novotna was not just a score but a description of a player who was nearly as bad as she

"I think it was much better,"

forming perhaps they should there were points I wasn't really have done. A seed winning happy with Maybe I was just too focused or too concentrated and sometimes I made a silly mistake. I oeed to relax and enjoy it." Novotna relax? That will be the day.

Yesterday she explored the extremes in alarmingly quick fashion. Novotna hroke Leon Garcia to love in the first game but had two double-faults in her first service game and required three deuces to hold. The serve and voiley game, hy its chargeto-the-net-and-hope nature, is never ao exact science hut she is more erratic than most.

Still, she survived to face 16, but given the way the rest of the third seed said hefore reg-the fancied runners are per-istering the flaws. "Nevertheless which put her on solid ground

doesn't mean the wbole bottom of the draw is open. Whoever heat Monica must have played really well." Asked vbetber the women's game is in a state of flux, she replied: "We are seeing a changing of

As for her own longevity, the 28-year-old Czech attributed it to a fitness regime. "Wheo I look round the locker room the other players don't have that." she said. "I keep telling myself to work hard hut also not only to take from your body but give back. That's the important part

as she surveyed the horizon. "I the old battalion is Spain's saw that Monica lost but it Sanchez Vicario, who has been in the final for the last two years hut who was playing so poorly and infrequently earlier in the year she was being likened to Andre Agassi of the women's tour. Now the comparison to Agassi circa 1992, when he won, is looking more valid.

In the first round the slimmed-down eighth seed's 6-0, 6-0 demolition of Clare Wood was more a reflection on her excellence than on the former British No I, while yester-Florencia Labat 6-2, 6-4 in 45 minutes. The fact she lost only for staying healthy." six points on her serve under A fully fledged member of lined the gulf between them. six points on her serve under-

years," Sancbez, who last lost to anyone other than Steffi Graf at Wimbledon in 1994, said. "I feel more comfortable on grass and I've had a good prepara-tion. That included a shared, rained-out final, against Novotna at Eastbourne. Mary Pierce, the ninth seed,

"I've started hetter than past

was barely troubled by Magui Serna, who was the junior Wimhledon runner-up last year, and who has risen to No 51 in the world rankings in her debut sea-

That surge was halted dead in its tracks 6-4, 6-3. She will now meet Sanchez Vicario in what threatens to be the tie of the fourth round.

Court circular

Hard knocks for. the lush lawn

Centre Court, the pride of Wimbledon, took a battering from the seeds yesterday, with Pete Sampras companing the hallowed surface with cement and Jana Novotna declaring the bounce was about as true as life on the moon. Sampras, the No 1 seed who

knows the court like his backhand having won three championships on the manicured meadow, played there for the first time in the current championships and was not im-"I couldn't believe it in the

arm-up," ha said after burying Byron Black, of Zimbabwe, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2. "It was very chewed up. There was no grass in the middle and some areas were like cement. I've en it so chopped up."

seed who preceded Sempres on court, was just as forthright. You never get is decent bounce, it's really badly dam-aged, said the Casch after her straight-sets victory over Spain's Gala Leon Garcia.

The volleys forced head groundsman Eddie Seaward to abandon his roller and assure the players that all was well. "We have always strived to achieve perfect playing conditions on all our courts," he said. "I am obvioristy concerned about the condition of Centre Court, but we are increasing the air flow through the night with the use of fans, and once the moisture has dried out. I am confident the court will become firmer, look better and continue to perform well."



Cross is happy

DEEDS OF THE SEEDS

Karen Cross and Lorna and Spaniard Mana Sanchez Woodroffe, the only two Lorenzo in the first two rounds. British women to win singles matches at Wimbledon this week, will receive an extra bonus when the Women's. Tennis Association announce their latest rankings next Mon-

For the first time, Cross, the bubbly Devon left-hander, and the 20-year-old Surrey player Woodroffe, will both move into the world's top 200 and will also

be ranked No 2 and No 3 In Britain behind Sam Smith. Cross collected a massive 96.5 points -16.5 for winning three qualifying matches, 44 for beating American Linda Wild

singles

Holder: :

plus 36 bonus points because world No 44 Wild and Sanchez Lorenzo, ranked No 71, were so far ahead of her on the com-

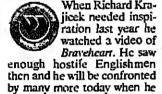
The 23 year-old from Exeter started Wimbledon at world No 322 and British No 8, but is expected to climb as high as No 147 next Monday.

Woodroffe, improving all year, started the Championships at world No 242 and British No 5. She gained 49 points in total for beating 18-year-old Swiss prodigy and world No 33 Patty Schnyder in the first round and will jump to No 166.

singles

Holder:

Krajicek's confidence grows on grass



enough hostife Englishmen Haarhuis might tell him otherthen and he will be confronted by many more today when he like thunder as he left the Henmcets Tim Henman and a courtful of supporters. The Wimbledon champion has never played the British No I before and just about the last place he would choose to

confront him is on the lawns of the All England Club. As Paul Haarhuis will testify, beating the man is one thing, overcoming a the waves of Henmania is another. On People's Sunday the mood was raw, rampant

Krajicek, the fourth seed, described the prospect as "very interesting" after he had defeated David Rikl in the previous round but his compatriot wise. The Dutchman had a face fest on Centre Court and he was clearly unhappy. Had the crowd helped Henman? "That's too difficult." he replied, his diplomacy not entirely concealing his

anger.
If the match was being played in Paris or New York, Krajicek Henman is short of match prac-

S Testud (Fr) bx M SELES (US) 0-6 6-4 8-6

Chladkova (Cz Repr bt R Zrubakova (Sio-k) 6-7 6-3 8-6

NOVOTNA (C: Repi bl G Leon Garcia (Sp) 4 6-2

A SANCHEZ VICARIO ISDI by F Labor (Arg.)

N Tauzot (Fri bt J Wiesner (Aut) 3-6 6-3

Novak and D Rid (Cz Rep) bt M keil and J Salzenstein (US) 7-S 6-3

B Haygarth ISA) and G Van Emburgh (US) bt O Delaitre and G Raoux (Fra) 7-6 6-2

S Stolle (Aus) and C Suk (Cz Rep) bt D Difu-cia (US) and R Smith (Sah) 6-0 3-6 6-4

Men's doubles

First round

M PIERCE (Fri bt M Serna (Sp) 6-4 6-3

Guy Hodgson looks at the task ahead for Britons Henman and Rusedski

more complicated. "I'm serving very hig," Kra-jicek said, "hut I'd like to be more consistent with my returns. I'm getting there." Compared with his form this time 12 months ago, he added: "Last year I wasn't very happy with myself... I haven't had a bad day

would be a strong favourite as been achieved by Krajicek's coming to terms with the surtice since the operation on his elbow in March. At a wet Wim-have the battle half won if you YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

N BROAD (GB) and P NORVAL (SA) by C Bran-di and F Messon (IU 7-5 6-1

W Black (Zim) and J Grabb (US) by E Sanchez (Sp) and F Santoro (Fn 7-5 6-4

S Groen (Neth) and S Hirson (Croa) bt D Ran-dall and J Warte (US) 6-7 6-4 6-2

J Knippschild (Ger) and J Tarango (US) bt G CONNELL (Can) and S DAVIS (US) 6-4 6-7

R LEACH and J STARK IUS) by K Kinnear (US) and A Kitinov (Mac) 6-3 7-6

M DAMM and P VIZNER (Cz Repr bt E Couto and 8 Mota (Por) 6-4 7-6 J BJORNMAN and N KR.TI (Swe) bt B Black (Zlm) and J Grmelstob (US) 6-2 6-1

Holders: H Sukova (Cz Repl and M Hings (Swit)

A FLISAI Fr) and R GRANDE (to bt M Paz (Arg) and A Sidot (Fr) 6-3 6-0 M Saele and Y Yoshida (Japan) bt E De Lone IUS) and N Pratt (Aus) 6-7 7-5 6-4

A Kournikova and E Likhovtseva (Rus) bt P Shriver IUSI and E Smyte (Aus) 3-6 7-5

N KUIMUTA and N MIYAGI (Japan) of V Csur-go (Hun) and C Schneider (Gerl 6-4 6-3 A Huber (Gerl and M Seles IUS) of R Nidef-fer (SAI and K S Rinaldi-Stunkei (US) 7-S

- S A Siddell and A Wainwright (GS) bt P Langrae (Cz Rep) and R Zhibakova (Slovak) 6-3 6-2

A FRAZIER and K PO (US) bt 7 Jones (US) and M Munc (Croat 6-2 6-3

m munc (Croaf 8-2 6-3 L NEILAND (Lat) and H SUKOVA (C2 Tap) bt O Lugna (Um) and E Wagner (Gen 8-3 6-2 N ARENDT (US) and M BOLLEGRAF (Nem) bt Sung-nee Perk IS Kor) and SN-ting Wang (Tai) 6-2 6-0

K ADAMS and L McNEIL (US) bt 8 Rigner (Ger) and D Van Roost (Bel) 6-3 1-6 6-4

C Borelay (Aus.) and C Wood IGB) bt K 800-GERT (Neth.) and I SPIRLEA (Rora) 4-6 7-6

C RUBIN (US) and B SCHULTZ-McCARTHY (Neth) bt M Saekr and Y Yoshida (Japan) 7-6-6-3

4-9 6-3

Y BASUKI IIndo) and C Vis (Neth) bt L Gar-rone and G Pizzichini (ft) 5-7 6-4 6-2

5 APPELMANS IBen) and M OREMANS (Neth) bt A Decheume-Ballerst and S Testud (Fr) 6-4 6-3

Women's doubles

ehrens (US) and C Haggard (SA) bt P Al-b (Arg) and S Dosedel (Cz Rep) 7-6 6-7

most, the equation becomes ter at Wimhledon as he has learned to forget the occasion-al bad bounce. On Sunday he even welcomed that the turf was heginning to wear.

Krajicek has a serve that encourages comparisons with a hlacksmith's hlow on the anvil guile. "It's funny the way the court is playing." Henman said. "It's sometimes easier to return the first serve. The second comes

bouncing in all directions; [then] it comes through slowly, which I don't find particularly easy. From a statistical point of view he's the favourite. He's the defending champion and he's ranked higher than me hut

that's not the way I'll approach

it. I'll just concentrate on my own game, firmly believing I can come out with a win." Greg Rusedski, Henman's friend and rival, feels today's result lies with Krajicek. "When Richard played Michael Such and Pete Sampras last year

Tim. But he hasn't shown it yet." Rusedski has reason to feel more confident about his own prospects, because his American opponent today, Richey Reneherg, is ranked 46 places below him. Indeed, it is difficult to envisage a scenario that could he more favourable for the British No 2 in the second week of Wimbledon. Not only is he playing well - one defeat in 13 matches - but the draw has opened up so that be will not

semi-finals. "My next match is not easy," Rusedski said, "because Richey returns so well. I can't really look to the semi, because if

Richard Krajicek Steffi Graf (Netherlands) have to meet a seed until the

THE NUMBERS GAME

turned up for People's Sunday - 6,310 up on the previous middle Sunday in 1991 9 The number of woman 12.8m The number of view

seeds who are no longer in the

competition

37 The number of minutes before Sandrine Testud won her first game during her shock victory over Monica Seles

Reneberg in the men, Mary lo Fernandez in the women ers who watched Tim Henman beat Paul Haamuis on BBC TV 8-1 The odds on Greg

Rusedski winning Wimbledon. Sampras is 11/B favourite: Henmao is 16-1

TODAY'S WEATHER Mainly cloudy, showers developing. -

Game set and watch.

ROLEX

OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPER TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WIMHLEDON,

Men's singles

Third round B BECKER (Gerl bt M Petchey IGE) 6-3 6-3

P NORDA (Cz Pep) bt A O'Brien (US) 6-3 4-6 6-3 6-7 6-4 M RIOS (Chile) by J Van Lottum (Neth) 7-6 6-3 6-7 6-4 N Nefer (Gon by A MEDVEDEV (Ukr) 6-4 6-2 6-7 6-4

P SAMPRAS (US) by B Black (Zim) 6-1 6-2

Y KAFELNINOV (Rus) bi J Stottenberg (Aus) 6-3 7-6 4-6 6-3 Women's singles

M J FERMANDEZ (US) bt T Tanasugam (Thair

M A Vento (Ven) bt M Maleeva (Bul) 6-2

D JOHNSON and F MONTANA (US) bt P Cash (Aus) and R A Reneberg (US) 3-6 6-3 6-4) Etungh and P Haamurs (Neth) bt P Kilderry and M Tebbutt (Aus) 7-6 7-6

A Othovsky (Rust and 8 Steven (NZ) bt / Def-gado and A Foster (GB) 4-6 7-5 6-1 T Woodbridge and M Woodforde (Aus) bt N Pareira (Ven) and C Van Rensburg (SA) 6-1 6-4 M PHOLIPPOUSSI5 and P RAFTER (Ausi b) L Jensen and M Jensen IUS: 4-6 6-3 6-4

B MacPine (US) and G Multer (SA) bt M Petchey and A Richardson (GB) 7-6 6-3

TOMORROW'S HEADLINE?

Appelmans upsets the cart

The 38-match unbeaten run with which Martina Hing's opened the year began in Sydney in January with the defeat of her op-ponent in today's fourth round, Sabine Appelmans of Belgium. But Hing's needed three sets for the win against a player who went on to reach three sets for the Australian Open (Appelmans's best showing in a Grand Siam) and now stands at 19 in the world rankings. A left-hander of great poise, the 25-year-old Appelmans has long been one of the most consistent and watchable players on the tour. Dismantling the big-serving Brenda Schultz-McCarthy in the previous round for the loss of the demost was harden in the previous round for the loss of the demost was harden in the previous round for the loss of the demost was harden in the previous round for the loss of the demost was harden in the previous round for the loss of the demost was harden in the previous round for the loss of the demost was harden in the previous round the control of the demost was harden. only five games was hugely impressive, and she goes into her meeting with the No 1 seed with her confidence buoyed. It will surely be Hingis's toughest test so far. Simon O'Hagen

That mental equilibrium has

mentally here."

but that will not necessarily dis-

courage Henman, who is finding force easier to face on the unpredictable surface than

M J FERNANDEZ and L M RAYMOND (US) bt

M HINGIS (Swit) and A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) bt K A Guse (Aus) and C Morerlu (US) 6-3

L Paes (Ind) and R Dragomy (Rom) bt C Willen son and S Smith IGB(4-6 6-3 6-1

N Broad (GB) and M De Swardt (SA) bt D Ran-dall (US) and D Jones (Aus) 7-S 6-4

M KNOWLES (Bah) and A KOURNIKOVA (Rus) bt 5 Metwike (US) and N J Pratt (Aus) 6-4 7-5

M Bernard ISA) and K Boogert (Neth) bt G Van Emburgh (US) and E Medicharova (Cz Rap) 6-2 7-6

A OLHOVSKIY (Rust and L NELAND (Lat) bt D Elerot (Swe) and L Pleming (Aus) 7-6 6-1

R LEACH (US) and M BOLLEGRAF (Neth) b R Smith (Bah) and A Frazier (US) 6-1 2-6

D ADAMS ISA) and A FUSAI (Fr) bt K Ullyett and R Nideffer (SA) 6-7 6-4 6-2

and in Housing (SA) 6-7 6-2 6-2 P Myborg and A Carsson (Swe) bit R Bergh (Swe) and P Hy-Boulais (Can) 7-5 5-7 6-4 C Suk and H Sukove (Cz Repi bit T Kronemann and K Raneldi-Stunkel (US) 6-1 7-5

and K Rimeki-Stunkel (US) 6-1 7-5
P Gelbrattn and L Raymond; (US) bt W Black,
(Ziml) and A Grossman (US) 4-6 B-3 7-5
K Jones (US) and K hunce; (Aus) bt 8 Haygarth (SA) and T Jones (US) 6-4 6-3
O Sepstord and 5 A Siddad (GB) bt 5 Groen
(Neth) and H Vidova (IC; Repl 7-5 7-5
M Mirryl and E Liferotteses (Rus) bt J EAGLE
(Aus) and C VIS (Neth) 7-6 6-4

W Arthurs (Aus) and T known (Sloven) bt A Kr nov (Mac) and A Olsza (Pol) 7-5 1-6 11-8

L Jensen and K Adams (US) by A Florent (Aus) and C Barday (Aus) 6-7 6-1 13-11

Seaded players in CAPITALS

Orsanic and F Labat (Arg) bt J Waite (US) and M Munc (Crost 6-4 7-6

Mixed doubles

First round

6360

bledon, where he had less form accept the grass, warts and all, through the air quickly and as to lose in the rain delays than and the Dutchman has got bet soon as it hits the court it can be it's going to be awfully tough for you're looking that far ahead you might not be there."

they were probably two of the best matches I've seen on grass. For those two weeks I don't think anyone could have beat-

TODAY'S ORDER OF PLAY (Noon start on Centre Court and No 1 Court:

Centre Court A SANCHEZ-VICARIO (Sp) V M PIERCE (Fr)

M RIOS (Chila) v B BECKER (Ger) T HENMAN (GB) v R KRAJICEK (Neth) **Court One**

G Rusedski (GB) v R Raneberg (US) M J FERNANDEZ (US) v J NOVOTNA (Cz Rep) P SAMPRAS (US) v P KORDA (Cz Rep) **Court Two**

P RAFTER (Aus) v T Woodbridge (Aus) M HINGIS (Swit) V S Appelmans (Bel) (Seeded players in capitals)



QUOTES OF THE DAY

1 should never have let her back into the match. I am not timing my backhand as I usually do and I got a little tight mentally. I still believe I can win Wimbledon one day. I would not be here if I didn't. Monica Se-les, the No 2 seed, after her

defeat by Sandrine Testud. Bons [Becker] is playing in the Premiarship and I'm playing at York. The difference be-tween playing at Wimbledon IB like going to the moon. Mark Petchey, British journeyman professional, after his taste of the high life.

I came here not to be so much in the newspaper in the moming, but to play good tenper so many times. It's just fine with me. Becker.

excellent. Becker on the psychological strain of winning Wimbledon. Looking around the lockerroom at what players eat and how they take care of them-selves I don't think they are do-ing it in a professional way. You

You need to be very, very

patient. Your nerves have to be

have to not only take from your body but also give back. Jana Novotna, at 28 the oldest women's singles seed, reveals the secret of her longevity. There's a bit of a drought coming. In a few years, there's definitely a possibility of not too many Americans being high-ly ranked. Richey Reneberg. one of only three players from the United States - male or female - left in the tourna-

THE PERSON OF - BARN STRAIGH · 1900 校 世统和 明 arty Agrice Ma y Carried the the dwards takes

Meneuve

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Villeneuve's limitations are exposed by Schumacher

Motor racing

DERICK ALLSOP reports from Magny-Cours

Someone asked Craig Pollock, manager of Jacques Villeneuve, where his protege might he. "I would think he's gone home with his tail between his legs," came the sardonic reply.

In fact, the pre-season championship favourite was fending off another barrage of questions about his latest inauspicious performance which had yield-

ed only fourth place in the French Grand Prix.

The Canadian was endeavouring to put oo a brave face (which you would need to beoeath that hair), but evident differences of opinion with his bosses on technical matters had again undermined their cause and exposed limitations that charac-

The German's third win in four races had given him a I4point advantage at the top of the drivers' standings and cou-

firmed what he is now at last prepared to acknowledge - that

this year's title could be his. The first public acceptance of that prospect will be another psychological blow for Villeneuve and his beleaguered camp. Schumacher said: "During the race, for the first time this year I began to think about terised all those who venture to take on Michael Schumacher. the championship. If I carry on racing the way I am, then I've got a chance.

"There's a couple of circuits after Silverstone which suit our car better. Ferrari have made a

big step forward and we'll know more after Silverstone."

Schumacher will be at the Northamptonshire circuit tomorrow and Thursday, testing before the British Grand Prix oo" Sunday week. A previous test there provided him with scant cause for optimism, but then he experienced similar anxieties in the build-up to the race here. Only a convincing recovery by Villeneuve on Williams' home ground will be good enough to check the shift of power.

Villeocuve maintains that

about this race," he said. "We've had two bad races." But we are going to get it right. When we tested here we were two seconds a lap quicker than Michael Now they are two sec-

onds a lap quicker."

this race. We thought it was going to rain more than it did. We underperformed as a team. In perfect conditions Williams are still ahead. Definitely."

"We had the wrong set-up for

Villeneuve's preferences in setting up his car have been at

tions more than once and have revealed a chink not apparent in Schumacher's armour. He and Ferrari are as united as he

Patrick Hearl, Williams tech-nical director, said: We were outperformed by Ferrari here. I don't know if that is because of the car or the set-up, but we will be going to Silverstone hoping for some improvements.

Jacques has his own ideas on set-ups but there are no limitations on his choosing the set-up tagonists will be capable of certainly deserved this one.

battle to the end of the season."

Villeneuve was comprehensively beaten on Sunday not only David Coulthard, of by Schumacher but also by McLaren-Mercedes, echocd fa-Williams' other driver, Heinz-Harald Frentzen, and the German will believe he might yet if Ferrari win the championship emerge as the main challenger and I think Michael can do it. to Schumacher.

ever, there is a growing feeling they deserve their luck. They that neither of the Williams pro-

he wishes. However, he can be denying Ferrari their first dri-a little over-optimistic. It's going vers' tille sioce 1979, and to be a great struggle and a good. Eddie Irvine's third place consolidated their lead in the con-

structors' championship. miliar sentiments here when he said: "It will be good for the sport You have to say the luck is with Within Formula One, how them at the moment but perhaps

Springboks ring the changes

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWETT

South African rugby partisans have oever been noted for their fond appreciation of oppositioo gated to the bench. teams, but Martin Johnson's triumphant Lions appear to be held in higher regard by the Springbok hordes than by any of the political bigwigs back home. Fran Cotton, the tour manager, yesterday admitted his surprise at the absence of a congratulatory message from Tony Banks, the new Minister for Sport, in the wake of last weekend's series-clinching win in Durban.

We've heard nothing from either the Government or the Opposition," said Cotton, who can date his first brush with the good burghers of Westminster to 1974, the year of the most cootroversial Lions tour of all to a land then in the depths of apartheid. "We know our performances have made an impact at home and we've received a good deal of support from rugby people and some involved in other sports, hut there have

been no official congratulations."
Perhaps Banks might take note of the Lions' achievement in the light of last night's announcement of the Springbok team for the third and final Test in Johanoesburg on Saturday, for the Lions have succeeded in

side. Henry Honiball, the hardrunning outside-half from Natal, has been dropped from the 2I-strong squad following his travails at King's Park while two front-rowers, Naka Drotske and Adrian Garvey, are rele-

Jannie de Beer, a quality goalkicker who played strongly for Free State against the midweek Lions in Bloemfontein seven days ago, wins his first cap at stand-off while James Dalton, the fiery booker from Gauteng, and Dawie Theron, the Griqualand West prop who played against Wales in Cardiff last December, reappear in the pack. There are two other changes up front: Johan Erasmus, another Free State debutant, replaces Ruben Kruger at hlind-side flanker while Krynauw Otto takes over from Mark Andrews in the second row, Both Kruger and Andrews were injured during the ultra-physical battle in Durban.

Meanwhile, Jason Leonard captains the midweekers against Northern Free State in Welkom this afternooo. Regarded as the least testing fixture oo the 13-match itinerary - Northerns caught an 80-point shellacking from Western Province in one of their most recent matches the game should see the Lions at their most adventurous.

The two latest additions to the party, Kyran Bracken and Tony Stanger, both turn out. Eager to



New arrival Tony Stanger chats with newly shorn lan McGeechan during the Lions training session yesterday

against Australia in Sydocy oo Saturday week, Brackeo will be looking to capitalise on the rich vein of form he struck lowards the end of the last domestic season. Stanger plays on the right wing and will theo rejoin the Scottish squad for the remain-

der of their South African tour. There are two matches left and we have a total focus on du Plessis' original first-choice England in the one-off Test said. "We will wait until after the

in the competition.

Edwards said: "It is not seri-

ous. The heel just needs resting

and I am missing Lausanne

and Oslo purely as a precau-

tionary measure." His absence

game in Welkom before putting together the side for the final Test and we won't shy away from making changes to personnel if we believe they will enhance our chances of a clean sweep. We're going to Ellis Park to win; in the first two Tests, we had to fight for our lives but that's oot the situation any more. The battle now is with ourselves in terms

er who was one of the most in- for his first Test cap, pulled a flueotial performers in both Tests, is in serious danger of missing the Johanneshurg showpiece hecause of groin trouble. Yesterday, Cotton rated his chances no better than 50-50. Alan Tait and Eric Miller are also struggling with strains: Tait damaged a groin muscle in Keith Wood, the Irish hook- make the field as a replacement

thich muscle as he rushed on. No one could accuse the Lions of a lack of enthusiasm.

SRITISH ISLES by Northern Proc State, Walliam, today): T Stington Resetable and England): A Stategard Resetable and England): A Stategard Resetable and Morthernation and England). It liedershood Resetable ond England): In Catt (Bath and England), Releaded (Spaces): A Catt (Bath and England), Releaded (Spaces): And England):

Edwards takes a week's rest

The world triple jump record holder, Jonathan Edwards, bas pulled out of two grand prix

Edwards first felt the effects of the problem at last month's European Cup in Munich, where he restricted himself to only two jumps when winning

his speciality in Great Britain's 17.54 metres to win the com-overall team victory. 17.54 metres to win the com-petition, he took no further part

The injury troubled him throughout last week but Edwards, whose major target this voar is the defence of his World Championship title in Athens meetings this week - one in Championship title in Athens Lausanne tomorrow plus Cao's Bislett Games on Friday - with to compete in Sunday's Securicor Games as a mark of respect to his army of supporters.

However, in Sheffield, Edwards again experienced prob-lems and, after producing a second-round clearance of Salamanca two days later.

Criville in long lay-off

Motorcycling

The HRC Honda rider Alex Criville will not race again until September after suffering severe hand injuries during practice for last weekend's Dutch Grand Prix.

from the two grands prix means he will travel to defend his His absence from the 500cc thumh was badly injured. championship virtually guar- . Criville hopes to have recov world title with only two further competitions, the British trials antees a fourth consecutive in Birmingham on 12 July and an international meeting in world title for his Australian team-mete, Michael Doohan, who is already 68 points clear

of Criville and 90 ahead of Japan's Nobuatsu Aoki.

Criville crashed in the first qualifying practice and the hike shid over the turmac with his arm trapped underneath. He suffered tendon and bone damage as well as lesions of the blood vessels in his left wrist. His left

ered sufficiently to race in the Grand Prix of Catalonia on 14 September, though his injuries may mean he never races again.

Wilkins' winning treble

Dai Wilkins, the Welsh champion, caused the first major upset of the British Championships in Worthing yesterday when he beat the English champion, John Ottaway, 21-12 in the preliminary

round of the singles. Ottaway, the favourite, trailed from the early stages as Wilkins opened up an 8-6 lead after 12 ends and extended that to lead 18-10 after 19 ends. he needed to secure the win.

Ottaway closed the gap with a double on the 20th end, but a fine last bowl strike from Wilkins, oo the next end, sprung the jack for the three shots be needed for victory.

Ireland's Jeremy Henry moved through to the final when he beat Scotland's Pat Mc-Nally 21-17. Henry led 20-12 but the Scot railied to close the gap

The fightback ended on the next when Henry got the single

England lose the killer instinct

BILL COLWILL Netherlands

England, as they had done in their 4-0 win against Canada, started in a positive vein against the Dutch in their second game in the Korean Telecom Cup in Seoul yesterday, creating a lot of chances, but they could not recapture their cool finishing of the opening game. They were also thwarted by several fine

saves by an on-form Dutch. goalkeeper Daphne Touw. In a highly entertaining game. he difference between the two sides boiled down to the Dutch converting two of their five penalty-corner attempts while England wasted seven and also failed with a penalty stroke.

After an even first half in which both goalkeepers made a number of hrave saves, the Dutch opened the scoring two mmutes after the interval. England were caught by a well rehearsed penalty-corner drill from the Dutch with 22-year-old Dillianne van den Boogsard finishing off a clever move.

England responded positively and were awarded a penalty stroke in the 45th minute wheo Mandy Davies' shot was illegally stopped oo the goal-line by a defender. Karen Brown put the stroke wide.

Hilary Rose cootinued her world-class form in the England goal with an excellent save at another Duich penalty corner, Smabers scoring from the re-bound in the 58th minute. After a rest day today, England face Australia tomorrow. Yesterday the Argentina captain, Karina Masotta, gave her side a ninth-minute lead against Australia which they defended until the 43rd minute before the Australians levelled the scores,

PAISE AMAINS TO YELL OF THE SCOTE GOING ON TO WIN 4-1.

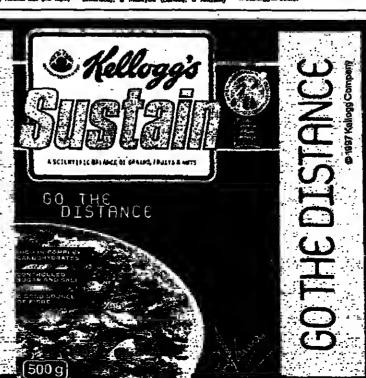
ENGLAND: H Rose (Unexperty of Mass chusetts); K Brown (Slough); J Edward (Carbury). M Davies (South Coldfield, Othor), K Boden (Leicester), M Nicholis I Slough); J Swalth (Sutton Coldfield), J Swalth (South Coldfield), Swalth (Swalth Col NEST(SEELANDS; D Touw; M Yearstra; W Duys nr, J Deltars, D van den Boogsard; H Smalters C Thate (capt), I van den Broek; F van de Kieft

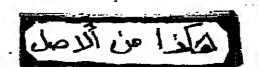
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The Mike Sheron saga is set to end to-day with Stoke's prolific scorer joining Queen's Park Rangers for £2.5m.

SPORTING

TO BEAT THE REST YOU HAVE TO EAT THE BEST





Johannesburg, page 31



Testud a test too far for Seles

Tennis RICHARD EDMONDSON reports from Wimbledon

Monica Seles, one of the darlings of People's Sunday, showed she does not like Mondays yesterday. The No 2 seed, a constant underachiever at the All

England Club, was helped out of this year's championships 0-6, 6-4, 8-6 by the world No 23, Sandrine Testud, of France. Seles's dismissal will burt those who supported her raucously through a second-round match with Katrina Brandi on Sunday. The naturalised American has become a popular figure in SW19 since misfortune planted several kisses on her cheek. Over two years of her career disappeared when she was

stahbed Hamburg and, more recently, father Karoli struck down by cancer.

Seles promised she would return to glorious and her weight and grunting babit.
"I would love to

win Wimhledon and hopefully I have a few more years to try at it," she said. "I still believe I can win it and I don't believe I would

be out there if that wasn't the The scene of the capitulation was the airy No 3 Court, where the visible cameras are on the fringes of the arena and not mounted in machine-gun nests immediate projectiles on the

battle ground came from Seles. Testud won just nine points in a first set that occupied 21 min- a day when they don't play utes of clean destruction from Seles. There was little in the way of sweet science as the American clubbed away on either wing with the finality of an assassin on the ice floe. At the beginning of the second set, however, there arrived a sea change. "She [Testud started playing well on the key points and never gave up. Scles reported later. "She stopped making a lot of unforced errors and was serving very well

when it counted." The No 2 sced's relative im-

mobility was exposed by a series of drop shots, and the continued openings created by her murderous ground shots were negated by a failure to advance. Seles treats a net with the the same suspicion as a sockeye salmon, an element highlighted by the fact she did not play

a single smash in the match At the beginning of the third set, the whiff of an upset was around a court packed to the gunwales and later augmented by spectators pogoing and climbing on friends' shoulders behind the canvas backstop. Seles gave her supporters a lift by assembling a 5-2 lead in the decider by employing superior court craft and experience.

If, for simplicity's sake, a turning point has to be identified, it came when she was serving for the match at 5-3. A forehand from Testud was

called long by the haseline Seles's Wimbledon judge hut right by the umpire, record 1969 (seeded 11); bt 3 Schultz 7-6 1-6 6-4; C. Porvik 6-2 6-4; E. Swiglerous 6-4 6-3; lost to S. Graf (1) 6-0 6-1, 990 (seeded 3): bt M Strandlun 26-0; C Benjamin 6-37-5; A Minte Scles at 0-30 and with a gremlin of disenchant-1991 did not play mind. "It didn't come at a great time, but I still shouldn't have 1993-95 did not play let it bother me

After that incident the fibres began snapping in the rope connecting Seles to the championships. There was the fleeting luxury of a match point at 6-5, but an ace down the middle, her sixth of the match, gave Testud a place in the fourth round two games later. "I think that women's tennis has improved a lot in the last few is now beatable," the woman from Lyon said. "I mean, even the top 10 players, if they have

said. "I was

mumbling to

myself a little bit

in that game and

well it can be dangerous for them and they can lose." The 25-year-old Seles is as svelte as she has been for some time and she had a simple explanation for her new figure. "Love," she said. Scles's proportions have attracted greater interest this fortnight, following the grunting Wimbledon of 1992, when her exhalations were compared with the noise that comes from the honeymoon suite.

gesting she is on the bulky side, take all that in good spirits and



Monica Seles (above) on her way out of Wimbideon vesterday, while (right) celebrates victory over the No 2 seed. Photographs: David Ashdown/Empics

a form from a Rubens canvas it is only in comparison with other near-skeletal bodies in the women's locker-room. "I don't think I'm at the ideal physical shape I would like to be," she said this week.

Seles is more a rounded figure in another sense these days, and there were no histrionics after her defeat as she later went out to partner Anke Huber successfully in a women's donhles. There are, she understands, other things to worry about than the sticks and stones from the Fourth Estate. "To me it's hurtful a few times when they ask me questions and they are putting words in my mouth," she said this week. "But my Dad taught me to

and if Seles does indeed have I know now that all comes with

Dad, who is also coach, could not he here this week as stomhis Florida home. He has attempted to watch his daughter's games live on television, but the excitement became such that he removed himself from the armchair and later watched tapes only after learning of the result.
"It's really tough not to have

JOHN ROBERTS

Tennis Correspondent

non-raining champion.

attacking style has been de-

scribed as boring, dominated the

lawns for three consecutive

championships of almost un-

broken sunshine between 1993

and 1995, and has the class to

Ah, yes, and we must not

overlook Boris Becker, who is so proud that his life as a ten-

nis player was born on the

grass courts of London, and who

is expected to be Sampras's hur-

"The host country has had a

few people in the third round

and two in the fourth round, so

it's normal, to be expected,

that they write more about

them," Becker said yesterday af-

ter dispatching Mark Petchey, of Essex, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2, "But I

came here not to be so much in

the newspapers in the morning,

hut to play tennis well. That's just fine with me. I've been in

the newspaper so many times."

Sampras was asked if he

would like to he afforded more

attention since Andre Agassi

was not here for him to sneak

in behind. "Have you forgotten

that Rusedski and Henman are

mop up on this occasion.

dle in the quarter-finals.

my Dad here and that's a little time I'm going through right happiest period of my life in the last five years. It's a tough stage for me and I've just got to stick

"But this is only a game, a sport, that I'm playing and what's going on outside in my life is much bigger than that."



Sampras leads the advance of big guns

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 3339, Theyday 1 July 22 Mankind has ring to it

ACROSS Judges report of revolutionary standards (10) 6 Not all stop using this mu-

sical work (4) 10 Laura performed for the stener (5) 11 Pager carries message of

be stung? (9) 12 Perhaps dark blues will re- 28

14 Traders alarmed about the French preparations for attack (3,6)

15 Silence about mirth on river from which none emerge alive? (14) 18 One new fanciful measure 3 about communist is out of proportion (14)

25 Organised navy to pressgang one (3) Issue from Threadneedle Street? (4-5) ument (7) fright from one who might 27 The money-attracting

English sort of park? (5) Cowardly old wife left the 12 Perhaps dark produce a cry turn after day two (3) 13 Colour will produce a cry 2001 (5) 15 island (4) 17 Firm's success wrongly stated in takeovers (5,5)

which sounds the same (9) 24 Fix those people, informal-

ly, somewhere to sleep (5)

DOWN 1 British torture is hard and 19 Arranging loan takes short

unpalatable (8) Buddhist notion to fore in 20 Iran oddly (7) Keeping two on its board? 21

Having stomach to follow wild boar about in tree park (9)

Reportedly want to prepare dough (5) Hand over about a penny to get right American doc-

Has short hair to highlight Came up about 7 as is clearly attested (4-10)

16 Beans finished, they didn't win first prize (7-2) 17 Not quick, defeated and very tired (4-4)

time as is stated (7) Morning facility keeps one in the vicinity (7) Contralto's partner's fat (6) 23 Perform better as an unfashionable party (5)

replied, smiling. "I prefer not re-ally being talked about, not being the centre of attention, and

just playing my tennis. "When Agassi's here, he's re-ally the centre of all the tabloids Before we become totally carried away with Henmania and and stuff, and with Henman and Rusedski playing very well, the Rusedskian rave, it is worth rethat's perfect." Having continued a troublemembering that we have in our

free advance by defeating Byron Black, of Zimbabwe, 6-1, 6-2, 6midst the reigning champion, the raining champion and the 2, the world No 1 will meet Petr Richard Krajicek, last year's Korda in the fourth round. The sensation, aims to prove that he is not a one-title wonder, a fate tall, lean Czech left-hander defeated Sampras in an epic semifinal at the 1993 Compaq Grand Slam Cup in Munich. which may hefall the retiring Michael Stich, who shone through the downpours of 1991. Pete Sampras, whose poetic

Becker's next opponent is Marcelo Rios, a 21-year-old Chilean whose popularity at the French Open earned him him the media's Lemon Award (Martina Hingis received the Orange). Rios's mood was probably not improved when another Latin American, the Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten, left Paris with the men's singles tropby.

It may disappoint Becker, though not surprise him, to learn that Rios has repeated Ivan Lendl's view that "grass for cows, soccer and golf". The young man's coach, Larry Stefanki, tried to smooth things over by saying, "In that case, I think Marcelo's turning into a cow."

Rios spent a good deal of time on the meadow of No 3 Court yesterday finding a way past John van Lottum, a 21-year-old Dutch qualifier, ranked No 366, 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4.

"I came three years ago and I got really pissed, complaining about every bounce when I couldn't hit the ball clean or play my game," Rios said. "I think my mentality has changed, and I get pissed a little bit, but not

Becker will endeavour to still there?" the American make every bounce awkward

to take his opponent lightly, even on grass, from his experience of playing the Chilean on the clay of Monte Carlo last year. Rios defeated him in straight sets. .

Becker said: "He's a very good counter-puncher. He plays with the power of the other guy, takes the ball early, and has a very good feel for the court. On a good day, he can be excellent. The surface doesn't matter. He has a good eye for everything."

So, too, does Yevgeny Kafel-nikov, who appears to have cleared his mind of last year's agonising first-round defeat by Henman. The Russian No 3 seed defeated Australia's Jason Stoltenberg, a semi-finalist last year, 6-3, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3.

Not that Kafelnikov will view his fourth-round opponent with anything but respect. Nicolas Kiefer, a 20-year-old German. ranked No 98 continued to make an impressive debut. Yes terday he eliminated Andrei Medvedev, the Ukrainian No 13

seed, 6-4, 6-2, 6-7, 6-4. Even allowing for the loss of Stoltenberg, the Australians are guaranteed a quarter-finalist. Pat Rafter is due to meet Todd Woodbridge in the fourth While the All England Club

have broken the backlog of matches by gambling on a second People's Sunday, there are grounds for concern because of the wear and tear some of the courts have taken. Goran Ivanisevic has been

fined \$2,000 [£1,350] for refusing to attend a news conference following his second round defeat to Magnus Norman on

Tyson's bite puts his sport on the line

Boxing MARY DEJEVSKY

reports from Washington

As the Nevada State Athletic Commission prepared for today's disciplinary hearing into the sensational ear-hiting conclusion to Saturday night's world heavyweight fight in Las Vegas, it was not just Mike Tyson's future, or his \$30m (£20m) purse, that were at stake in America, but the future of the sport of boxing itself.

Meanwhile Tyson himself -who celebrated his 31st hirthday yesterday - was nowhere to be found.

On the second day after the fight, arguments were still raging about whether boxing or Tyson was primarily to hlame. The director of the Nevada commission, Marc Ratner, described the outcome of the fight as "a sad day for boxing". A commentator for the rightwing Washington Times, Thom Loverro, said Tyson's action on Saturday night in twice biting chunks out of Evander. Holyfield's ears had "changed the face of boxing".

The US boxing promoter Rock Newman blamed the presence of so many "bodyguards and hangers-on" in the ring at title fights these days, claiming that they had pro-voked the extraordinary scenes at the end of the Tyson fight. Even the president of the

United States, Bill Clinton, joined the debate. Asked to comment during a press conference at which he was presenting his latest tax cutting proposals, he said he was "horrified", hut delicately tried to separate the sport from this one incident.

"I saw the fight," he said, "and until the biting incident happened, it was a good fight. I was horrified by it, and I think the American people are." He said he did not know what the role of the federal government should be in regulating boxing, but "as a fan, I was horrified".

There were, however, differing opinions as to whether Tyson should forfeit his purse for the fight and whether his career was now effectively over. The most charitable view came from a out his life on the line and he frustrated because the referce deserves to be paid." The most commentators, who said that get away with it."

Tyson should he barred for life. Several noted that he risked returning to jail. Tyson is on parole after serving six years for rape, and could be returned to rison if the authorities decide to charge him with assault either for a blow he is allegedly struck at a Las Vegas police officer during the mêlée on Saturday night or for the action of hiting Holyfield in the ring.

This eventuality was seen as unlikely - the police are not expected to press charges - but Holyfield's attoroey, Jim Thomas, has confirmed that he will wait for the commission's verdict before deciding whether to

usue legal action against Tyson. "I believe the action of Mike Tyson was actionable. Whether Evander Holyfield wants to do anything about that, we'll have to decide," Thomas said. "Both of us feel for the good of this sport, which Evander has put a lot into over the years, there needs to be

Whatever stance they took and however distasteful they found the prospect, few US commentators were prepared to bet that there would never be

In Britain meanwhile the British Boxing Board of Control has urged that strong action be taken against Tyson. Its general secretary, John Morris, has sent a personal letter to Ratner, in which he wrote: "Now world boxing will be watching Nevada for action. Obviously you may know mitigating circumstances that we could not, but it does seem as if only the sternest of decisions can rescue the image of the sport."

Amid general condemnation, there was one voice of support for Tyson from Britain from the former world welterweight champion Lloyd Honeyghan. A friend of Tyson's, Honeyghan said: "Holyfield should stop being a big baby and get on and sign for the next fight. Holyfield head-butted in the first fight. And he did it again in this fight. It was a proessional head-butt. We've all dooe these things if we can get away with them.

"I thought Mills Lane was the best referee in the world. But wasn't protecting him. I don't severe judgment came from a hlame Tyson. I would have number of professional sports done the same-if I thought I'd

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